

No 61,551

Sport and show business rally to Conservatives

Young people at a rally attended by show business and sporting personalities gave Mrs Thatcher an ovation after a speech in which she portrayed the Conservatives as the party for youth and Labour as the party of pessimism

Thatcher message of optimism gets Tory youth ovation

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Mrs Margaret Thatcher swept confidently into the final week of the election campaign amid scenes of extraordinary fervour yesterday, as show business and sports performers joined about 2,500 wildly cheering young people in an almost adoring display of their allegiance.

The Wembley Conference Centre in north London was full of foot-stamping, flag-waving, horn-blowing young Conservatives from all over Britain, who gave the Prime Minister an astonishing reception before, during and after a speech in which she portrayed the Conservatives as the party for youth and Labour as the party of pessimism.

They stood cheering and singing for 10 minutes after her 45-minute speech, which had been preceded by an hour of entertainment compered by Bob Monkhouse and Jimmy Tarbuck, who introduced the many stage, screen and sports personalities, nearly all of them sporting Conservative badges.

It will be seen as a remarkably adept piece of political salesmanship. There were many performers from the world of sport including Steve Davis, the world snooker champion; Sharon Davies, the Olympic swimming medalist; Brian Jacks and Neil Adams, the judo champions; Fred Trueman, the former Yorkshire and England cricketer and Terry Neill, the Arsenal manager.

Alliance is second Owen says

From Barrie Clement Bath

The Alliance is now the second force in British politics and is the only group which can prevent a Tory landslide, Dr David Owen, deputy leader of the Social Democratic Party, said yesterday.

In an open-air speech in Bath, a confident Dr Owen put forward the "three sticking points" which would have to be negotiated with the Conservatives in the event of a hung parliament.

The first would be the introduction of measures to reduce unemployment, the second an increased effort to secure multilateral disarmament and the third a referendum on proportional representation.

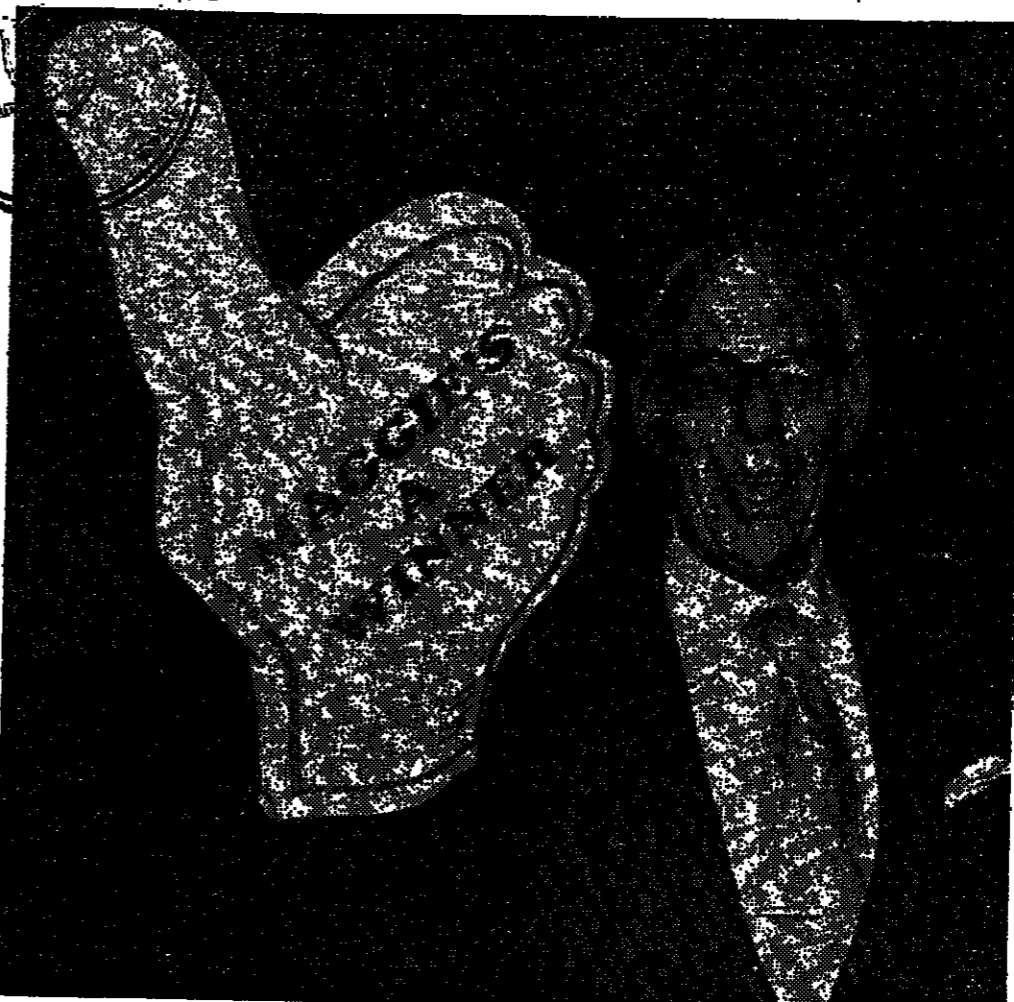
Dr Owen said: "We would say to such a government, by all means stand firm in the proper defence of Britain, but you must take the concern about the nuclear arms race into account."

He said that if the Alliance were in a position of "pivotal strength", it would say to the Tories: "You must not believe that the election system is fair when millions of people voted for us without that being reflected in the number of seats. You must ask the people whether they think that is a fair system."

He said that under proportional representation "negotiated government" would probably be the norm.

On the subject of unemployment, he said that "the stainless steel" Tories would have to be influenced by a strong Alliance presence.

The Alliance faced a "monumental" task if it were to form the next government; however, he still thought that during the next three-and-a-half days, the task was not impossible.



Thumb up: Mrs Thatcher being led by a hand at Wembley yesterday.

Union chief urges vote for Liberals

By Paul Routledge Labour Editor

Labour was hit by fresh internal trouble yesterday after it was disclosed that a leading trade union leader on the right of the party is advising many of his members to vote Liberal.

Mr Roy Grantham, general secretary of the Association of Professional, Executive, Clerical and Computer Staff, which has 123,000 members, has urged tactical voting in an article in his union journal.

He said that the Conservatives were determined to fight to rid the nation of the evil of unemployment. She made a brief allusion to the Falklands when she said that the Conservatives felt freedom was worth defending, "even though it will be challenged 8,000 miles away."

Mr Grantham's "vote Liberal" proposal arises in the context of a discussion about the SDP and Mrs Shirley Williams, once an APEX-sponsored Labour MP. The white-collar union leader writes: "What about the Alliance? I remember telling Shirley Williams when she was thinking about leaving the Labour Party that the only reason would be to split the vote against the Conservatives and guarantee that they retained power. She has just persuaded them."

"Today all can see that a vote for the SDP is a vote to keep in power the worst government this country has had for over a century. The Liberals are a different story. They can win a number of Conservative seats in South and West."

Mr Grantham's remarks are printed just above an advertisement in the APEX journal placed by the Labour Party, which urges: "Think positive, vote Labour". The bulk of his article is taken up with arguments to do just that.

"If you want a caring, economically-secure Government committed to a realistic defence policy, not to a jingoistic theme of making up more and more nuclear warheads."

But the Liberals are pleased that their campaign to persuade the electorate to make use of tactical voting has found an echo in such a highly-placed Labour quarter.

Mr Paul Tyler, former Liberal MP for Bodmin in the 1974 Parliament, told The Times that mass defections of working people from Labour in Devon and Cornwall could hand the Alliance at least half of the 16 seats there.

Leaders of the General, Municipal and Boilermakers, the third largest union, defiantly continued to assert that Labour would win the election when their annual conference opened at Scarborough yesterday (the Press Association reports).

Drink clubs blamed for Brixton trouble

By Nicholas Timmins

Lambeth Council is to be asked to repossess two houses on Brixton's "front line" which are being used as illegal drinking clubs, after a series of incidents which culminated on Saturday night in a police panda car being set on fire and an officer slashed across the back with a knife.

Saturday's incident followed increasing tension around Railton Road, the scene of riots in 1981, after a period when police had believed relationships were improving in the area since the introduction of neighbourhood policing last November.

That scheme, which sent up to six officers in pairs on to the streets round the clock, backed by district support units, was said by the police to have eased tension, and contributed to a marked drop in street crime.

But a paper to be put to the Lambeth community police consultative group tomorrow night says that in recent weeks, with better weather, lighter evenings and more people on the streets, "tension has started to increase again."

Chief Supt Tony Speed, the new uniform head of Brixton police, says in the paper that incidents of open hostility, both verbal and physical, towards the police have increased markedly.

Minor incidents of verbal abuse and occasional stones thrown at patrolling officers from the crowd which gathers in Railton Road have developed

and culminated in a number of more serious incidents", he says.

In Saturday's incident, according to Scotland Yard, the police stopped two men on suspicion of possessing drugs. A crowd gathered, a police personal radio was stolen, an officer was slashed across the back with a knife and a police panda car was set on fire.

The district support unit was called and the incident quickly died down. The officer was treated for a flesh wound at King's College Hospital and a man has been charged with theft of a police radio and assault with intent to avoid arrest.

The incident occurred in Mayall Road, near one of the houses which have been taken over as shebeens - illegal drinking clubs which the police say provide a focus for the drug trade.

In his paper, written last week, Chief Supt Speed says that the "honeymoon" period for the policing scheme may be ending as it is "now seen by some as a threat to their drug scene."

"Whatever the reasons, it is absolutely essential that the hard work and achievements of the partnership between police and the community should not be allowed to be destroyed by a few (and it is only a handful) who are opposed to any sort of reasonable lawful behaviour."

Wave of dissent sweeps Israel

From Christopher Walker Jerusalem

A wave of internal criticism to mark today's first anniversary of Israel's invasion of Lebanon has been accompanied by the imposition of curfews throughout the occupied West Bank, and a new security alert for the 30,000 Israeli troops still on Lebanese soil in anticipation of violent Arab protests.

With about 60,000 Israelis gathering in Tel Aviv on Saturday night, for a mass anti-war rally, the domestic dissent over the continued involvement in Lebanon has provoked a sharp reminder to the Government of the growing unpopularity of the army's presence there.

Sources close to Mr Menachem Begin, the Prime Minister, reacted angrily to the weekend of national soul searching which also saw the planting of two of the largest booby-trap bombs smuggled into Jerusalem for several years. Both were safely defused.

Following critical analysis which included a four-hour programme on Israel Radio, government officials said: "The orgy of published and broadcast evaluations of the Lebanon war this weekend is harmful to vital Israeli interests and can only make the resolution of the conflict more difficult."

Observers noted that the bitter debate has done more than anything in recent months to point up the deep divisions now threatening the fabric of Israeli society. Many of the local criticisms have been equally, if not more, hostile than those voiced abroad.

The officials reflecting the view of Mr Begin commented with a note of exasperation: "The Syrians are standing on the sidelines and are watching us with bemused delight. Why should they budge from their position, and evacuate Lebanon, when they can read about it in the newspapers and see it on television?"

The protests continued yesterday as more reserve soldiers and officers who have pledged to return their Lebanon campaign ribbons to the Defence Ministry, demonstrated outside the weekly Cabinet meeting.

Calls for Mr Begin's resignation and an immediate withdrawal of all Israeli troops from Lebanon dominated the Tel Aviv rally, which came at the end of a week-long march from the Lebanon border by members of the Peace Now group.

As a result of violent anti-war protests in the West Bank, in which six members of the Israeli security forces were injured, the main Palestinian university in Nablus, the largest occupied town, was closed by military order for the rest of 1983.

Photograph, PLO feed, page 6 Letters, page 13

Detective dies in shooting

Four men and two women are expected to appear at Hamilton Sheriff Court today after an incident in Lanarkshire over the weekend in which one policeman died and three others were injured, one seriously.

The dead man was Detective Sergeant William Ross Hunt, aged 56, who was married with three sons. His colleague, Acting Detective Constable Duncan Nicholson, aged 37, also married, has been detained in hospital with serious chest and leg injuries. His condition was reported last night to be stable.

Two other policemen, John Hair, aged 26, and Robert Wilson Gillan, aged 26, were also injured in the incident.

The four had been investigating a report of assault at a house in Earn Gardens, Larkhall, early yesterday when they were attacked by a group of people. Back-up officers sealed off the area and after door-to-door inquiries, six people were arrested.

Advertisement for SAA South African Airways featuring a lion and the slogan 'There's something new in the air!'

Three-inch hailstones lash south coast

Freak storms with hailstones three inches in diameter lashed south coast resorts yesterday and led to disappointment for thousands of Londoners who had lined the Thames to see a fluyssat by the American space shuttle.

The weather forced the shuttle to abandon plans to fly 2,000 feet above the Thames from Heathrow airport to the Woolwich Ferry. Instead it took a higher flightpath, confining the view of space to a brief glimpse of the spacecraft riding on its host aircraft, a Boeing 747.

The fluyssat brought out hundreds of thousands of sightseers in central London, according to the AA. "Every bridge across the Thames was blocked with parked cars. It was virtually impossible to cross the river for an hour", a spokesman said.

Union chief urges vote for Liberals

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"Today all can see that a vote for the SDP is a vote to keep in power the worst government this country has had for over a century. The Liberals are a different story. They can win a number of Conservative seats in South and West."

Mr Grantham's remarks are printed just above an advertisement in the APEX journal placed by the Labour Party, which urges: "Think positive, vote Labour". The bulk of his article is taken up with arguments to do just that.

Table of contents listing various sections and their page numbers, including sections like 'Weekend jail for killing black', 'Sotheby suitor', 'Crime course', 'Senate gloom', 'Conductor dies', 'Perks dropped', 'Prix winner', 'Ballesteros out', 'Detective dies in shooting', 'There's something new in the air!', 'Three-inch hailstones lash south coast', 'Union chief urges vote for Liberals', 'Drink clubs blamed for Brixton trouble', 'Alliance is second Owen says', 'Secret Howe note suggests more cuts', 'Elderly swing right', 'NHS issues', 'Consistency profiles', 'Barbara Castle', 'Labour and blood sports', 'Leading article, letters', 'Steel interview', 'Growth of less than 1 per cent a year', 'Had already been leaked', 'Sir Geoffrey's key commentary puts a new perspective on the election campaign', 'Senior Treasury sources were last night attempting to discredit the document, saying that it had been overtaken by the White Paper', 'But the burden of Sir Geoffrey's argument is that public spending must be curbed in the long term', 'But, more significantly in the light of the current election campaign, Sir Geoffrey also says: "It is essential that we get across to the country at large the nature of the longer term problems of public spending and then seek its support and understanding for sensible ways of solving them.", 'Instead of that, the Conservative campaign has been carefully constructed around the current expenditure White Paper, and Mr Shore said yesterday: "The existence of these documents, and of these plans, and their deliberate concealment in the Conservative manifesto, expose the central and shameful dishonesty of this campaign.", 'The Prime Minister said in an interview on London Weekend Television's "Weekend World" yesterday: "We have laid out our plans for the next three years of public spending. They are there for everyone to see, for everyone to discuss. In a way, I wish more discussion had concentrated on these instead of the scares and the leaked documents that we have had.", 'The lifeboat at Poole, Dorset was launched to tow in a 15-foot fishing boat which was struck by lightning a mile off Bournemouth. The sunny forecast encouraged hundreds of weekend sailors out into the Channel.', 'A coastguard said: "We are delighted we never lost anyone. We have dealt with dozens of emergency calls but so far we've managed to save everyone.", 'Mrs Thatcher's speech made only the briefest reference to the Alliance, and again presented Labour as the only alternative government. She told them: "That was marvellous, but there is a lot more to come yet.", 'She said that the Conservatives were determined to fight to rid the nation of the evil of unemployment. She made a brief allusion to the Falklands when she said that the Conservatives felt freedom was worth defending, "even though it will be challenged 8,000 miles away.", 'Mr Roy Grantham, general secretary of the Association of Professional, Executive, Clerical and Computer Staff, which has 123,000 members, has urged tactical voting in an article in his union journal. He tells clerical workers in the South and West that voting for the Liberals where they have a chance of unseating the Tories "is good sense.", 'Mr Grantham's "vote Liberal" proposal arises in the context of a discussion about the SDP and Mrs Shirley Williams, once an APEX-sponsored Labour MP. The white-collar union leader writes: "What about the Alliance? I remember telling Shirley Williams when she was thinking about leaving the Labour Party that the only reason would be to split the vote against the Conservatives and guarantee that they retained power. She has just persuaded them.", 'Today all can see that a vote for the SDP is a vote to keep in power the worst government this country has had for over a century. The Liberals are a different story. They can win a number of Conservative seats in South and West.', 'Mr Grantham's remarks are printed just above an advertisement in the APEX journal placed by the Labour Party, which urges: "Think positive, vote Labour". The bulk of his article is taken up with arguments to do just that. "If you want a caring, economically-secure Government committed to a realistic defence policy, not to a jingoistic theme of making up more and more nuclear warheads." But the Liberals are pleased that their campaign to persuade the electorate to make use of tactical voting has found an echo in such a highly-placed Labour quarter. Mr Paul Tyler, former Liberal MP for Bodmin in the 1974 Parliament, told The Times that mass defections of working people from Labour in Devon and Cornwall could hand the Alliance at least half of the 16 seats there. Leaders of the General, Municipal and Boilermakers, the third largest union, defiantly continued to assert that Labour would win the election when their annual conference opened at Scarborough yesterday (the Press Association reports).

صبراً عن الامل

Scotland Yard to take lessons from US on investigating crime

By Stewart Tandler, Crime Reporter

American work study experts are to train Scotland Yard detectives in the latest techniques for assessing and handling intelligence data, based on methods developed for the Pentagon and the counter-espionage community.

The techniques, widely used among federal and state law enforcement agencies in the US, are being brought to Europe for the first time. They could revolutionize criminal investigation over the next decade.

A very small scheme using the techniques was started several years ago after officers visited police in New Jersey, but the decision to widen their use was taken last autumn by Sir Kenneth Newman, the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police. An outline was included in the action plan drawn up for the force and the Home Office gave its approval several months ago.

This autumn some 50 officers, drawn from the specialist detective squads and the new teams set up in the four London police areas to tackle street crime, will begin training under the tuition of staff from Anacapa Sciences, a company, based in Santa Barbara, California.

Scotland Yard will not disclose the cost of the contract, but Anacapa has a monopoly in the law-enforcement field. In the past 10 years, it has devised schemes for the Pentagon, the Drug Enforcement Agency, the Royal Canadian Mounted



Sir Kenneth Newman, American techniques.

Police and the Australian Federal Bureau of Narcotics.

The company said: "We are designing the curriculum which will discuss some of the methodology for assessing sensitive material with an amalgam of different techniques. Basically police are superb at gathering information but not so superb at making it. It is really to see what the meaning is behind what you have got in the filing cabinet."

Anacapa has taught drug enforcement agents ways of making sense of the information brought together in investigations which sometimes stretch round the world and involve several hundred suspects.

At Scotland Yard Anacapa will teach detectives "matrix assessment", "time line analysis" and "link analysis", all

means of pulling information into discernible shapes.

Sir Kenneth has already spoken of a desire to concentrate police efforts more coherently against crime by improving intelligence so that resources are channelled against targets.

Anacapa's work would help to achieve this by moving Scotland Yard away from the traditional approach of collecting information, filing it and then producing it after a crime. Instead, the information would be put together to build up a picture of suspected criminals with their associates before a crime was committed.

An investigation could then be centred more effectively rather than using considerable manpower to chase down dozens of leads thrown up by the traditional methods. The head of the investigation might be provided with a more reliable choice of suspects.

The new system might also make greater sense of targeting criminals for long-term observation because the mass of information thrown up could be analysed effectively so that patterns emerged.

One enthusiast at the Yard said that the result could be a move away from the police system of deductive logic to inductive logic. It might also change the use of "super grasses". They could be used more as a source of potential information rather than witnesses in court.



Private patients: A playroom at the new Portland Hospital and (below) Mrs Diana Bruce with her son Nicholas, the first baby to be born there. (Photographs: Suresh Karadia).

Birth of a new idea at hospital

By David Hewson

A new kind of private hospital which combines obstetrics with paediatrics has reported the birth of its first baby.

The mother, Mrs Diana Bruce, aged 36, from Wimbledon, London, said yesterday that her first child had been born under the National Health Service, and the second in a private health service ward. Holding her third child, Nicholas, born three days ago, Mrs Bruce said: "This is definitely the way to have a baby. It is meant to be a pleasurable experience and it was."

Mrs Bruce's one complaint about the Portland Hospital in Great Portland Street, central London, was the food. "It is much too good. I had hoped it would be like the NHS so I could lose some weight."

Her husband, Mr Colin Bruce, aged 34, who owns a business organizing race lotteries for charities, did not use one of the hospital's extra facilities, a laundry for fathers whose wives are staying there.

The Portland, purpose-built for £7.5m, was financed by City investors and backers from the Persian Gulf. It expects most of its patients to come from Britain. A basic single room will cost £160 a day, excluding paramedical services, drugs, dressings and other facilities.

But the hospital has introduced a fixed-price budget



plan. This enables a mother with a problem-free pregnancy to stay for five nights for £930, excluding the consultant's charges. A caesarean section under the same plan costs £1,770.

Mr Ronald Staker, the chief executive, said the hospital would announce plans for an insurance scheme to cover medical costs by the end of the month. This would enable patients who face routine operations to insure against the extra medical costs which could follow from any complications.

Mr Staker said the hospital, which has 51 general beds, four in an intensive therapy unit, five in special care, and a further four in high dependency, will eventually employ about 180 people. By combining obstetrics with paediatric care, it would be able to educate children up to the age

Cruise men bring housing shortage

By Baron Phillips, Property Correspondent

The accelerating cruise missile programme at Greenham Common, near Newbury, is sending property prices soaring and creating a serious local housing shortage.

American servicemen are having to rent or buy homes up to 24 miles away from the camp where the missiles will be based after Christmas. There are now 1,100 airforce personnel on the base, but that figure is expected to double over the next two years while the total American population, including dependants, in and around Newbury will rise to about 5,000.

Naturally, the United States Air Force is keen to play down the impact of the rapidly expanding base. But Lieutenant Bryan Irving, camp spokesman, admitted: "We recognize there is a housing problem in the area, but I feel we are only aggravating a problem which was already here."

The USAF has had to recalculate the number of private homes it will have to rent for its people over the next two years and the present estimate of 300 is based on the assumption that Congress will approve spending on at least 250 family houses on HMS Dauntless, a former Navy base, at near by Burghfield. Lieutenant Irving conceded that they do not know when, or even if, the money will be allocated.

There are now 600 families living outside military accommodation and, as further delays occur on the building programme, more families will have to find homes on the open market.

Ms Alison Salmon, a Shelter officer in Newbury, said there has been a growing homelessness problem in the area since the base began to expand. Mr Terry McColl, deputy director of housing at Newbury District Council, agreed that the housing waiting list was growing and there had been a rapid increase in the number of homeless people coming to the council.

In the past, the council has been able to rent private homes to accommodate people on their waiting lists. That source has now dried up because there is a huge demand for these houses at much higher prices than the council can afford.

There is also a shortage of building land for public or private homes. Newbury Council has asked the Government for a special £10m housing provision because it is concerned about dwindling stocks of council-owned homes.

St Paul's wedding for sporting stars

Miss Sharron Davies, the Olympic swimmer is to be married at St Paul's Cathedral next year.

Miss Davies, aged 20, would not normally be entitled to hold the ceremony there, but her fiancé Neil Adams, the world judo champion, qualifies because he is an MBE.

She said yesterday: "We wanted to get married somewhere big - and you do not get much bigger than St Paul's."

"A big flower wedding in a place the size of St Paul's is better than everyone cramming into a small church. We got the idea when someone told us that if you were an MBE you could get permission."

Their decision has however disappointed Miss Davies' mother, Mrs Sheila Davies said: "I would sooner see her go down the aisle in her parish church. But if she has made up

her mind, St Paul's it will have to be."

Mrs Davies of Furzehatt Avenue, Plymstock, near Plymouth, added: "Sharron grew up in Plymstock and I always thought she would get married here. St Paul's is far too big."

Miss Davies, who has been engaged to Mr Adams, aged 24, for two years, said: "Of course we would have liked to have got married in Plymouth, which we both love, but you have to be practical."

The wedding is unlikely to be held next spring because St Paul's is fully booked.

A spokesman at the cathedral said: "Ever since Prince Charles and Lady Diana Spencer were married here we have been inundated with requests. The sparkle has not worn off. But only very few people can get permission."

Priest loses school contract job

Canon Peter Reilly, aged 48, has been dismissed after 19 years as executive secretary of the Roman Catholic diocesan schools commission in Birmingham.

The commission, which handles contracts worth millions of pounds, is responsible for building and maintaining Roman Catholic schools in five Midlands counties.

Gallery daubed in art protest

A group ofing themselves "Angry women" said yesterday that they had daubed the front of the Olympus Gallery in central London in protest against an exhibition which they say portrays "violence against women".

Some of the exhibition's pictures, by Helmut Newton, show naked women bound with chains and ropes.

The women sprayed paint on the gallery's door and windows and left behind stickers stating: "pornography is degrading to women."

Complaints over tawse set record

By Frances Gibb

A mother in Walsall, West Midlands, has made a record number of five complaints to the European Commission in Strasbourg over beatings administered to her children.

The complaints, disclosed today by the Society of Teachers Opposed to Physical Punishment (Stopp), brings to 32 the number of complaints concerning corporal punishment submitted to the commission.

Last year, the European Court of Human Rights held that such beatings against parents' wishes contravened the European Convention on Human Rights but they continue at a "lavish rate", according to Stopp.

The five complaints have been lodged by Mrs Susan Liddington for her children Jay, aged 16, Ian, aged 15 and Alan, aged 14, at Sheffield Community School in Walsall.

Joy, who has now left school, was given two lashes of the tawse on the hands for spitting at a pupil who had knocked her over. She agreed to the beating rather than be suspended just before her mock O-level examinations.

Alan was given two lashes on his buttocks for allegedly demanding money from another pupil, a charge he denies. Each child has also been suspended on separate occasions for four days for refusing the tawse.

Mrs Liddington said: "The school knows my wishes but just carries on regardless."

Theft prompts butler warning

Bogus butlers may try to infiltrate the homes of British peers, millionaires, Americans and oil sheikhs, Mr Ivor Spencer, the principal of the School for British Butlers, said yesterday.

He said 24 blank diploma forms used by his school had been stolen from his car recently in central London and he wanted prospective employers to contact him to verify diplomas that had been shown to them.

Pilot burnt in helicopter crash

A helicopter, which was crop spraying, crashed in flames in a field near Towcester, Northamptonshire, yesterday.

The helicopter was destroyed and the pilot Mr Sean Anderson-Brown, aged 20, of Tysoe, Warwickshire, was severely burnt and was said to be in a satisfactory condition in hospital last night.

Railway death

A man who was killed by the Paddington to Chester train at Slough, Berkshire, was named yesterday as Mr Michael McCann, aged 60, of Derwent Drive, Burnham, Buckinghamshire. Crime is not suspected.

Police seek public help in 'Beast of Exmoor' hunt

By Craig Seton

Police and Royal Marine marksmen are intensifying their efforts to identify and kill the so-called "Beast of Exmoor", which is believed to be a large, wild dog it has roamed isolated farms in north Devon for three months and killed nearly 90 sheep.

Today, local police will seek public assistance to establish a positive description of the animal and report sightings so that the search party of 12 Royal Marines can move in quickly for the kill.

The National Farmers' Union has installed a telephone "hot line" at a farm near South Molton where the marines are based.

Two dogs, a bull mastiff and a lurcher, will be shown locally by police today to give the public some idea of the type of dog they believe they are hunting.

The marines, from the

Book tribute to Sefton

Sefton, the horse which survived last year's Hyde Park bombing, is the hero of a book being published next month.

Two bombs, in Hyde Park and Regent's Park on July 20 killed 10 soldiers and injured more than 50 people. Seven horses were killed.

Gifts for the horse poured in, and as he recovered, he became a fund-raiser for the Army

Prison laxity on suicide alleged

Prisoners attempting suicide have been punished by having their self-inflicted wounds stitched without anaesthetic, a watchdog group alleged today.

Inquest, a pressure group which represents prisoners in Britain's jails, said its information came from reliable sources, including a prison doctor.

The Home Office has denied the claims, saying anaesthetic is administered in the normal way.

The allegations are made in evidence submitted by Inquest, which is funded partly by Greater London Council to Sir James Hennessey, the Chief Inspector for Prisons, who has been instructed by Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, to investigate safeguards against suicide in prisons.

Mr Tony Ward, of Inquest, said surgical stitching without anaesthetic was a "hastantly

punitive, not to say sadistic practice."

It made a mockery of standard instructions to prison staff that an inmate who attempted suicide should not be disciplined for his actions.

Mr Ward claimed that officers at one jail used cardboard to silence bells which prisoners in distress could ring from their cells.

The investigation comes after increasing public concern at the number of suicides in custody.

Mr Ward said the rate was about six times that of the general population.

"There can be little doubt that imprisonment in itself is a major cause of prison suicides. There is nothing novel in the suggestion that a more humane sentencing policy might be the most effective precaution."

Bullying in prisons could

also lead to suicide, he said. "There is a need for greater vigilance, especially perhaps where young prisoners are concerned, to detect any form of bullying or scapegoat."

Councillor Ward said we have heard of two prisoners burning themselves to death in recent years.

The Home Office said: "If Inquest substantiates their allegations with the evidence it will be investigated, but I doubt if there is a doctor in the country who would follow such a practice."

Dr Alexander Macara, chairman of the British Medical Association's ethics committee, said it was sometimes better to stitch without anaesthetic, which can sometimes add to the trauma. "But it would be very foolish to do so as a punishment, and he found it "difficult to believe that any doctor would do this."

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The old swing to the right despite Labour promises on pensions

If election campaigns in Britain ever become sufficiently presidential to include the American fashion for bumper stickers, an obvious slogan for those of a right-wing bent will be "Tories live longer". Pollsters exist in a state of permanent disarray with the chicken and the egg. The demographic facts state that people over the age of 55 are more likely to vote Conservative than the population overall, and that women pensioners outnumber their male counterparts three to two.

The world tunes in for BBC results

The world is taking a keen interest in our elections especially the countries of Latin America. Normal programmes from Bush House, headquarters of the BBC external services, on Thursday night have been cancelled so that the latest results can be transmitted. Four countries, Peru, Uruguay, Colombia and Mexico, have asked for special reports and dozens of radio stations will be picking up and broadcasting BBC reports.



The gurns' election: Mrs Le Hunte (left) talking to a voter in Ladywood.

Asian Tory woos ethnic vote

Reporters trying to assess the election in Birmingham, Ladywood, have taken to consulting local gurns in an attempt to predict the result. It seems almost as good a way as any in a constituency that, with 42 per cent of its population from the ethnic minorities, is the third blackest in Britain after Southall and Brent South, and where the Asian vote from Labour, to provide the Conservatives with the remarkable coup of the first Asian or black MP for over 50 years.

'Smiley's people' close ranks against Labour plans for secret services

In the last of his Smiley volumes published, John le Carré anticipates by four years Labour's plans for the secret services. For the first time in their 70-year history, Britain's security and intelligence agencies have become an election issue, with a manifesto pledge of a security Act to regulate them and a Parliamentary select committee to monitor them.

Doubtful future for welfare state's gem

The National Health Service has been described as the greatest piece of social engineering in our time and the jewel in the crown of the welfare state. Yet its future is one of the cardinal issues of the election campaign on which the political parties are making different promises. One weekly publication has opted that each of the parties has a policy for NHS, but none of the parties has a policy for health.

The facts

Facts from parliamentary answers and reports in the last term at Westminster. Public expenditure 1982-83: Health and personal social services, £13,633m. Social security, £32,030m. NHS prescriptions: Between January and September, 1982 more than 231 million prescriptions were issued at a cost of more than £1,200m.

The manifestos

LABOUR promises greater emphasis on preventive medicine, priority on primary health care services in inner cities, improvements in antenatal and maternity services and a public stake in the pharmaceutical industry. THE ALLIANCE promises a reallocation between areas to take account of demographic changes. A special fund of £500m a year will be created to pay for new schemes and ideas submitted by area health authorities, local authorities and voluntary organizations to help the poorest areas and the needy. Generic prescribing will be encouraged to reduce the drugs bill.

Keighley

Boundaries put Cryer in corner

CANDIDATES R. Cryer (Lab) G. P. A. Waller (C) N. Penney (Eco) J. Wells (L/All) Keighley is known for more than its literary links with the Brontës and the steam trains that started in the film of E. Nesbit's classic story, The Railway Children. It was the constituency that bucked the trend in 1979 and returned a hard left MP with a wafer-thin majority of 78 votes.

Cunninghame N

Marginal mixture in Ayrshire

CANDIDATES: J. Corrie (C) J. N. Carson (Lab) C. Cameron (SDP) R. Leishman (SNP/All) Cunninghamame North is one of those grey anonymous names so beloved by the Boundary Commissioners. It gives no clue to the identity of a schizoid constituency which combines the rich commuter villages and farming land of the north Ayrshire coast, the islands of Cumbrie and Arran, and one of Scotland's most depressed industrial wastelands, the Garnock Valley.



Mr Cryer: Modestly confident of a fourth victory

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Foot at rally

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Union's jobs warning

Tactical voting likely

ELECTION JUNE 83

Geoffrey Smith



COMMENT

How the Conservatives respond to Mr Peter Shore's latest onslaught on public expenditure is unlikely to have much, if any, bearing on the outcome of the election. But it may well influence the terms on which a second Thatcher administration is able to govern.

Mr Shore yesterday disclosed the texts of three official papers that were presented to the Cabinet last September. One was a report by an inter-departmental group of officials on public expenditure trends for the rest of this decade; another was a note by the Treasury on the implications of its report for taxation; and the third was an accompanying comment from the Chancellor himself, warning his colleagues of the radical decisions that might have to be taken on public spending.

'We have laid out our plans'

'We have laid out our plans for the next three years on government spending', Mrs Margaret Thatcher told Mr Brian Walden on *Weekend World* yesterday. 'They are there for everyone to see, for everyone to discuss.'

She has been able to take refuge in that kind of comment at her news conferences so far, as she was able to take refuge in it yesterday. She may well continue to get away with it over the next few days. But she ought not to be allowed to do so, and it may well be in her own interest not to do so.

She ought not to get away with a reference to the next three years alone, because that does not meet the charge. Sir Geoffrey Howe warned his Cabinet colleagues last September that 'we need to take a new and fundamental look at levels of public spending'. He was clearly looking ahead to the second half of the 1980s in case the most optimistic assumptions of economic growth did not materialize.

Country should be told of change

It may be that Sir Geoffrey no longer believes that such decisions will be necessary because he now takes a more favourable view of the prospects for growth. In which case there is no reason why the country should not be told. But what if the Chancellor's gloomy assessment of last September remains the Government's thinking? This would mean that probably within a year, and certainly within two, the Cabinet would be asked to consider policy changes of which there had been no whisper during the election campaign.

Feeling of being misled

But there would be a feeling that the country had been misled if it had not been told of pending cuts that ministers already knew, on the basis of present trends, would have to be decided fairly early in the life of the new government - even if these would take effect only after these next three years.

In such circumstances, one of two things would happen. Mrs Thatcher might press on regardless, thereby undermining her authority and credibility. Or the Government might hesitate to take unpopular steps which it believed to be necessary.

Low turnout for Foot as jobs march reaches a damp end

The rain returned to London yesterday as between 15-20,000 people converged on Hyde Park for a rally to mark the climax of the People's March for Jobs.

The unofficial target of the organizers had originally been 250,000, and although the election was expected to mean many political activists would be too busy to attend, the turnout will still be seen as a blow to the labour movement. Despite a large number of speakers, including Mr Michael Foot, it was a surprisingly low-key, unemotional occasion. The marchers filed in, carrying banners and wearing bright yellow tee-shirts, but most seemed more weary and dispirited than fired with zeal for change.

Labour told to focus on unemployment

Labour leaders desperate to stem the haemorrhage of voting support told their candidates yesterday to play up the risk to jobs if the Conservatives win a second term of office. The spectre of two million more people unemployed is being raised.

In its daily campaign briefing for candidates, the Labour Party said: 'From now until polling day, our campaign must focus on the issues that matter, and on the policies that will attract the voters. Nothing else.'

Chief among these is unemployment, and the party insists: 'We must deal a hammer blow to the Tory message of fatalism and despair, that there is no alternative to mass unemployment and social decay.'

The internal briefing paper tells Labour candidates to argue that government policies have helped to destroy 2.4 million jobs, and if the Conservatives get back they will follow the '3 policies'. 'Nearly two million more jobs would be at risk', the document says.

The party claims that 370,000 jobs are threatened in the public services and that spending cuts and 'privatization' will axe up to 100,000 school meals jobs, 60,000 hospital ancillary workers, 50,000 teaching jobs and thousands more in education. At local government and the civil service.

Ministers back on the village green

There are few things that better bring home the reality of democracy than to see high-powered Cabinet ministers out campaigning in their own constituencies.

In the depths of the Cambridgeshire countryside, Francis Pym, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, having just clambered into his Range Rover, instantly jumps out again to greet a solitary voter.

One hundred miles to the west, in the Vale of Evesham, Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Agriculture, is doing a door to door canvass in a tiny village, conducted at a trot.

There is no sign in Mr Walker's manner of a man who has been in Parliament since 1961 and first entered the Cabinet as far back as 1970. He tackles his canvassing as though he were a first-time candidate trying to earn the right to contest a winnable seat in the next election.



Rallying a weary army: Mr Foot speaking at the end of the People's March for Jobs. (Photograph: Tony Weaver).

Labour finds solace in canvass returns

Mr Michael Foot's campaign enters the final straight today in an air of persisting unreality, with the Labour leader banking an optimistic reports of support for the party from local officials being translated into votes on Thursday.

The campaign trail has been punctuated by enthusiastic, packed rallies and party workers telling Mr Foot that the opinion polls do not reflect their canvass returns. He has been impressed by their findings but now has finally acknowledged that yesterday's polls showing Labour leading for a disastrous defeat could not all be 'cooked', an allegation he made last week.

A tired-looking Mr Foot told journalists as he travelled by train from Edinburgh to Newcastle upon Tyne on Saturday night that the party faced 'a hell of a job' if it was to win, but then added that he believed Labour could win the 'don't know's' with its arguments on unemployment.

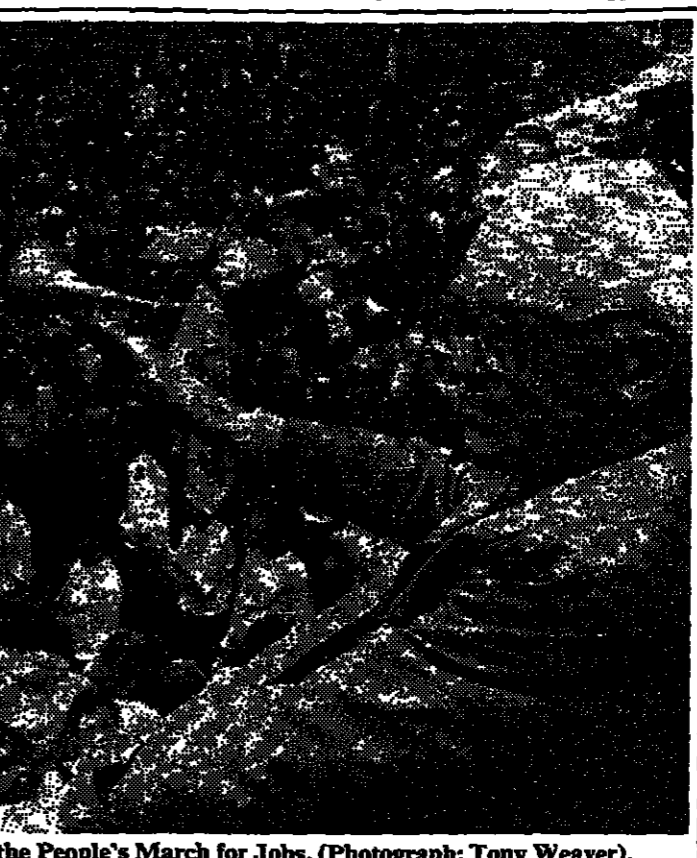
His confidence in reports from canvassers has kept him plugging away at the membership and welfare state issues in a campaign which has never really taken off.

Many may resort to tactical voting

The vital importance of the tactical voting which may take place on Thursday, and against which the Prime Minister has been warning potential Conservative voters, is underlined by the details of a poll by Market and Opinion Research (MOR) last week of *The Sunday Times* panel of voters.

The answers of just under 1,000 voters countrywide in 60 constituencies show that 27 per cent of Conservative supporters would be prepared to switch their votes - mostly to the Alliance - if they thought that in their constituency the Conservative had no chance of winning.

There is little comfort for the Conservatives in the fact that 32 per cent of Labour's supporters gave a similar answer, because 71 per cent of the Conservatives still considering switching their vote would support the Alliance and so would 87 per cent of the Labour supporters who would also withdraw their support from a candidate who they considered had no chance of winning.



Rallying a weary army: Mr Foot speaking at the end of the People's March for Jobs. (Photograph: Tony Weaver).

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Hopeful Steel in strategy talks

By Michael Knipe Mr David Steel presided over a strategy meeting of the SDP/Liberal Alliance leadership last night with the satisfaction of having seen his cautious prediction of the Alliance's standing in the opinion polls largely confirmed.

Throughout last week he said he would be happy to see the Alliance reach 25 per cent by the weekend, which it did in the *Sunday Times* Mori Poll, while the *Sunday Mirror's* Marplan gave it 27.5 per cent, a half point ahead of Labour.

The Liberal leader, who is also leader of the Alliance's election campaign, has stressed since the campaign began that the Alliance can make its greatest strides in winning voters in the last few days of the campaign. This was the pattern of its recent by-election victories, as well as its disaster in Darlington.

Mr Steel expects the Alliance bandwagon to pick up speed as voters realize the extent of Labour's loss of support and

Admission by Healey

The first admission by the Labour leadership that they could be losing anti-Conservative votes to the Alliance, particularly in Conservative marginals, was made last night by Mr Denis Healey, deputy leader of the party.

Returning to his own constituency in Leeds East for the first time since the campaign started, Mr Healey said that some voters were turning to the Alliance as the best chance of fending off a new and extreme Tory Government. People were deeply worried at the prospect of a Conservative victory which would bring a 'one-woman dictatorship' backed by the pro-wing of the Conservative Party.

'Some of them particularly in Tory marginals, are voting for the Alliance because they think it may have the best chance of beating the sitting Tory.'

fears of a Labour challenge give way to fears of a Conservative landslide.

Expressing the hope that many moderate Conservative supporters might yet swing their backing behind the Alliance, Mr Steel said yesterday during an Independent Radio phone-in that a lot of Conservative voters would be 'actually appalled' at the thought of the kind of policies that would be pursued by a Conservative government with a majority of landslide proportions. Those voters might well decide, he said, that they would rather have a strong moderating Alliance influence.

Commenting on the opinion polls, Mr Steel said: 'The curve is upwards and we do seem to have overtaken the Labour Party now. We are coming into the home straight and it is a question of whether we can catch the Tories. The Conservatives undeniably had a huge lead.'

The thrust of last night's campaign strategy meeting at the National Civic Club was to plot tactics for the last few days and to assess where best to target the Alliance attack.

Clash over offer of free buffet

By Craig Seton

An offer of a 'free buffet' at a social evening where members and guests could meet their Conservative candidates has provoked a political row in Devon and an allegation that it breached the Representation of the People Act.

The offer was contained in an advertisement in the *Seaton News*, advertising a social evening at the Seaton Conservative club on Saturday night attended by Sir Peter Emery, Conservative candidate for Honiton and an MP for 20 years.

Mr Alistair Sampson, the SDP/Alliance candidate for the constituency said yesterday: 'It is illegal under the Representation of the People Act to offer any form of inducement to a voter during an election campaign. I am deeply concerned that a Conservative club in the constituency should have offered a free buffet.'

TABLE OF POLLS

How the chief opinion polls have reflected party fortunes since May

Table with columns: Field Work Dates, Poll, Sample Size, C, Lab, Alliance, Others, C lead. Rows include Harris (Thames TV), MORI (S Times), Gallup (Daily Telegraph), MORI (Daily Telegraph), Harris (Express), Harris (Star), Marplan (S Mirror), Audience Selection (TV AM phone), MORI (Star), Audience Selection (The Sun 'phone), Harris (Thames TV), Harris (TV Eye), Marplan (Guardian), Gallup (Sunday Telegraph), Mori (Daily Express), Mori (S Times panel), Harris (S Observer), Marplan (S Mirror), NOP (Mail on Sunday).

Today's speeches

ALLIANCE: Rev. Dennis and David Steel, Westminster Hall, Westminster, 7.30pm. Conservative: Mrs Shirley Williams and Richard C. Cross, Westminster, 7.30pm. Labour: Mrs Denis Healey, Westminster, 7.30pm. SDP: Mrs Joan Littlewood, Westminster, 7.30pm. Alliance: Mrs Joan Littlewood, Westminster, 7.30pm. Conservative: Mrs Shirley Williams and Richard C. Cross, Westminster, 7.30pm. Labour: Mrs Denis Healey, Westminster, 7.30pm. SDP: Mrs Joan Littlewood, Westminster, 7.30pm.

Skills training neglected, Williams says

The Government was neglecting all forms of skill training except the Youth Training Scheme, Mrs Shirley Williams, president of the SDP, said in Crosby yesterday.

Support falls for Provisional Sinn Fein

Provisional Sinn Fein, the political wing of the IRA, has suffered a drop in support since last October's assembly election, according to an opinion poll published in Northern Ireland this morning, showing nationalist voters splitting 2 to 1 in favour of the Social Democratic and Labour Party (Richard Ford writes from Belfast).

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The violence of apartheid

White man who beat black to death sent to jail at weekends only

From Our Own Correspondent, Johannesburg

A white man who celebrated his nineteenth birthday last year by going out and beating a black man to death with karate sticks has been found guilty of culpable homicide - the equivalent of manslaughter in English law - in the Pretoria regional court.

Mr Ronnie van der Merwe was sentenced to no more than two years in jail and will serve only 2,000 hours of "periodic imprisonment" at the weekends, of which 800 hours have been suspended conditionally for the next five years.

Rustenburg, also planned to blow up multiracial hotels and assassinate Mr P. W. Botha, the Prime Minister, and Bishop Desmond Tutu, the outspoken black general secretary of the South African Council of Churches.

Cocktails and cautionary tales

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

An invitation to John Vorster Square is not something which any foreign correspondent in South Africa, still less any South African, black or white, can afford to take lightly.

The occasion encouraged a certain gallows humour. The two went out that rubber-soled shoes were recommended for the staircases at John Vorster Square are notoriously slippery, and unfortunate accidents have been known to occur.

It was, therefore, with some trepidation that a party of us presented ourselves at the functional blue-and-white building at the bottom of Commissioner Street last Friday afternoon and rode up in the lift to the officers' club on the seventh floor for drinks with Brigadier Jan Du Plessis, the Divisional Commissioner, and other senior officers.

Congressmen begin tour of Nicaragua

Managua (Reuters) - Five United States congressmen have arrived here as the Defence Ministry reported fresh fighting on Nicaragua's northern border with Honduras.

Gloom in Senate over superpower relations

Washington - A Senate report released here this weekend was pessimistic about the chances of an early arms control agreement and painted a gloomy picture of current US-Soviet relations.

Reagan rebuff fails to deter Grenada Premier

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

Mr Maurice Bishop, Grenada's left-wing Prime Minister, has renewed his appeal for better relations between his Commonwealth Caribbean island nation and the United States despite being denied talks with President Reagan.



Mr Bishop, bearded and six feet tall, answered questions in a relaxed and articulate manner at the Grenada diplomatic mission.

Four-hour gun battle near Baalbek

Soviet Union mediates in PLO feud

From Robert Fick, Beirut

The Soviet Union was last night mediating to try to end the violent discussion within the Palestine Liberation Organization after Palestinian guerrillas loyal to Mr Yasser Arafat were humiliated in a four-hour gun battle against Mr Arafat's opponents in Lebanon.

The shoot-out, which started when Fatah guerrillas tried to destroy a road block manned by Palestinian militiamen near Baalbek, left four men dead - including a Fatah officer and a senior Syrian intelligence agent - and at least nine wounded.



Target Begin: Members of the Peace Now movement protesting in Tel Aviv on Saturday night against Israel's continued presence in Lebanon.

Mr Chuchin gave Mr Arafat a letter from Mr Andropov, the Soviet leader, and later handed a similar letter to President Assad. Their contents were not disclosed.

Unions tell Gonzalez to quit Nato

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

Spain's Socialist trade unions holding their second national conference since the advent of democracy, issued a ringing call here yesterday to the Gonzalez Government to take Spain out of Nato.

China and Russia open border posts

Kashgar, China (Reuters) - China and the Soviet Union have agreed to open two crossing posts on their Central Asian border to make trade exchanges easier after a break of more than two decades, according to a senior official here.

Heilongjiang province, which Chinese officials say will handle only trade.

China objects to several million Soviet troops being deployed along its border, to the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan, and Russian support for Vietnamese action in Cambodia.

Angola regime shaken by diamonds scandal

By a Special Correspondent, recently in Luanda

Reports from within the ruling MPLA suggest that the authority of President José Eduardo dos Santos of Angola may be undermined by a diamond scandal implicating senior officials in his own entourage.

After oil, diamonds are Angola's biggest foreign currency earner, but smuggling is estimated to have been losing Diabang, the state diamond company, between \$60m and \$80m (£37m-£52m) a year.

The political crisis broke just before President dos Santos made an official visit to Moscow on May 16. He was handed a report, written to protect senior MPLA officials involved in smuggling, which accused the British mine police of being spies and demanding the arrest of Angolans trying to uncover the scandal.

Mystery of school killer

A picture released by West German police of Czechoslovak-born Karel Charva, aged 34, who went berserk with two pistols at a school near Frankfurt on Friday, killing two adults and three children and wounding 14. He then killed himself.

Police said they adjusted their view after Herr Willi Belt, headmaster of the Frethner von Stein school, failed to identify a photograph of Charva as the man who asked for directions.

Wife weeps after \$81m settlement

Los Angeles (Reuters)

Belgian-born Shaikha Dena al-Fassi, aged 24, awarded what could be a record \$81m (£50.6m) share of the communal property in the legal separation from her Saudi Arabian husband, said as she wiped away tears: "The money means nothing to me".

In assessing communal property Judge Robert Fainger of the Los Angeles Superior Court, has added up a glittering list of goods said to be in the possession of Shaikha Muhammad al-Fassi, aged 28, a billionaire businessman.

Utility parade for Romans

Rome (Reuters) - On the 37th anniversary of the founding of the republic, Italy revived the traditional military parade shelved eight years ago because of the Gulf oil crisis. But for spectators it was a flop, with only 8,000 soldiers taking part and no heavy armoured vehicles.

Kampala says 81 died

Nairobi - Eighty-one civilians were killed in the recent attack on a refugee camp at Kikyusa, 30 miles north of Kampala, not 200, as reported in some newspapers, Mr Paulo Muvwanga, Uganda's Vice-President and Defence Minister, said in Kampala.

Romania pledge

Washington - President Reagan has advised Congress that Romania should continue to enjoy its most favoured nation tariff treatment in the United States after assurances from Bucharest that potential emigrants will not be obliged to repay the state for higher education.

Guitarist guilty

Dallas (AFP) - David Crosby, aged 41, the guitar-playing former member of the rock groups The Byrds and Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young, was found guilty of cocaine possession and illegal gun-carrying. Sentence will be given on July 15. Mr Crosby fell asleep several times during the hearing.

Beatle saluted

George Harrison, the former Beatle, who has earned praise in the Soviet city of Sovetskaya Razlivka both for his musical abilities and concern for the Third World. In a rare tribute to a Western pop star, the paper noted his charity concert in 1971 for aid to Bangladesh.

Down to earth

Paris (Reuters) - Engine trouble in their light aircraft forced two French astronauts and a Soviet cosmonaut down in a cauliflower field in Brittany. Jean-Loup Christien, who took part in a Franco-Soviet Saljut space flight last year, had taken them to his country home from the Paris air show.

Crews jailed

Aswan (Reuters) - An Egyptian court jailed 39 sailors for 30 days pending interrogation on last month's Nile river fire which gutted their three vessels and killed 317 people. The prosecutor accused them of negligence, manslaughter and damaging public property.

Hotel crumbles

Riyadh (AFP) - Nine people were killed and many injured when a nine-storey hotel facing the Grand Mosque in Mecca, collapsed in the course of demolition.

ETA owns up

San Sebastian (Reuters) - The Basque separatist movement ETA claimed responsibility for six bomb attacks on Friday in the Mediterranean resorts of Marbella and Fuengirola.

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US unlikely to retaliate after Moscow expels another American envoy

From Richard Owen, Moscow

American sources in Moscow said yesterday that the expulsion of an American diplomat on charges of espionage was not likely to lead to a fresh round of retaliatory measures between Moscow and Washington.

On Saturday the Soviet Union announced that Mr Louis Thomas an administrative attaché in the security section of the US Embassy, had been declared *persona non grata*. An announcement by the news agency Tass said Mr Thomas had been caught "red-handed carrying out espionage activities" last Thursday.

Tass said an investigation by the KGB had produced "direct evidence" showing Mr Thomas's "complete guilt". It did not elaborate but said Mr Thomas had engaged in activities "incompatible with his official status", the normal euphemism for spying.

Three months ago the Russians expelled Mr Richard Osborne, a diplomat in the US Embassy's economic section, accusing him of espionage. They gave details of alleged spying activities, including the use of clandestine radio sets and soluble writing pads.

The case of Mr Osborne was not given prominence by the Soviet press and was dropped quietly once Mr Osborne had left Moscow. Similarly the accusations against Mr Thomas were carried by Tass but not reported in *Pravda* yesterday.

A US Embassy spokesman said Mr Thomas had served in Moscow for nearly two years and had been due to leave soon in any case. Friends of the Thomas family confirmed that they had planned to return to Washington early in July.

In April the United States expelled two Russians attached to the United Nations in New York, as well as a Soviet military attaché in Washington. Sources said the expulsion of

Mr Thomas was probably not meant to be seen as retaliation, since the United States had enough damaging evidence against the expelled Russians to embarrass Moscow seriously.

● **WARSAW:** The chief military prosecutor in Warsaw arrested a Polish diplomat after his return from abroad on Friday, on charges of spying for the United States and France, Reuter reports.

The official news agency PAP reported that the diplomat, Mr Jozef Gruchowski, worked in the Polish commercial councillor's office in Tokyo and refused to return to Poland last September.

The supreme military court last December sentenced to death in *absentia* Mr Zdzislaw Ruraw, Poland's former ambassador in Tokyo, who defected to the United States, after martial law was imposed in Poland. He was accused of treason.



Airborne sightseer: A competitor in the World Hang Gliding Championships flying past Neuschwanstein Castle in Bavaria yesterday. More than 30 countries are competing.

Pakistanis say deal on Afghanistan still far off

From Hasan Akhtar Islamabad

Mr Yaqub Khan, Pakistan's Foreign Minister said here that indirect talks on Afghanistan in Geneva earlier this year, through the UN Secretary-General's personal representative, Señor Diego Cordóvez, could be regarded as satisfactory, but a comprehensive settlement was still far away. Mr Yaqub Khan is leaving for Moscow on Thursday for talks with Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister. Last month he had talks with the Foreign Ministers of China, Saudi Arabia, the United States and France, and with Mr Douglas Hurd, Minister of State at the Foreign Office. The present Geneva talks are to be resumed on June 16.

Mr Yaqub Khan said that Pakistanis still held that the return of three million Afghan refugees would not be possible unless the Soviet Union withdrew its troops from Afghanistan.

The Soviet Union and the United States were considered certain to be among the guarantors of non-intervention in Afghanistan.

Mr Narasimha Rao, the Indian Foreign Affairs Minister, is attending the first meeting here of the joint commission set up in March to promote good relations between Pakistan and India.

Mr Rao said modest but useful progress was made

New coalition's challenges

Lisbon looks abroad for prosperity

The signing of a coalition agreement on Saturday between the Socialists and Social Democrats paves the way for the formation this week of Portugal's ninth constitutional government in the eight years since democracy was fully implemented. SUSAN MACDONALD reports from Lisbon on Portugal's successes and failures since then in the light of chronic political instability and the upheavals resulting from the 1974 revolution which ended nearly half a century of dictatorship.

PORTUGAL Part 1

for long-term consequences, has left Portugal with an unwieldy public sector which last year's revised constitution did little to modify.

At the same time Portugal had to absorb three-quarters of a million *retornados*—people who came home fleeing the uncertainties of the newly independent African territories. The country's lack of natural resources and the 1973 oil crisis added to the economic woes.

A new generation of democratic politicians took over—many holding idealistic principles but lacking political experience. The result had been a short-term piecemeal government with different ministers—even within the same party—providing conflicting solutions to the same problem. Power and party squabbling have brought down a succession of coalition governments.

The backward agricultural sector, which employs 29 per cent of the workforce, has no central policy plan.

Senhor Balsemão underlines the reemergence of local government as one of the achievements of democracy. Foreign funding has helped Portugal to build schools and hospitals and improve communications, though a lot still needs to be done. He also cites the military parliamentary watchdog, the Council of the Revolution, as one reason for the failure to introduce necessary reforms. Until last year, when they were disbanded, they held the power of veto over all parliamentary legislation and he feels the military's role in politics lasted too long.

Portugal has therefore once again sought its economic fortune abroad. In the past few years it has been busy renewing commercial links with former African colonies, especially Angola and Mozambique.

Senhor Balsemão feels Portugal can work there because it knows the countries and their problems. He is also pleased that Portugal, in his words, has become a country to be consulted on questions relating to southern and South Africa. There are about 600,000 Portuguese in South Africa.

Tomorrow: Economic and political crisis

When the lower echelons of the Portuguese armed forces, fed up with 12 years of war in Portuguese Africa, overthrew the last vestiges of dictatorship and gave the colonies independence, their action served to open the country to outside influences and cut off its main source of international identity, the colonies themselves.

The Salazar regime had imposed an isolationist policy designed to protect the country from the outside world. Portugal remained backward, and underdeveloped, and when the economy could not support the population thousands emigrated.

Official new figures show that from 1960 more than a million Portuguese went abroad, mainly to North and South America and to European countries, such as France and West Germany.



Senhor Balsemão: Success of democracy underlined.

Immediately after the revolution there was confusion. Senhor Pinto Balsemão, the present outgoing Prime Minister, in an interview with *The Times* considers that the country then swung further to the left than any other country in Europe.

A threatened Communist takeover was averted, but a nationalization programme, carried out with little thought

Increasing raids by pirates worry shippers

Twenty British merchant ships have been attacked by pirates on the high seas since January, 1981, according to a report issued by the International Maritime Organization in London at the weekend.

A total of 193 pirate attacks took place during the period and the frequency is increasing. Groups of men in powerboats, armed with guns and knives, boarded the ships at night to steal cargo and the crew's belongings, the report said.

Attacks are particularly prevalent off West Africa and in the Singapore area. Near Singapore there were 38 attacks in the second half of 1982 and 27 in the first three months of 1983.

In and around the ports of Ghana and Nigeria there were 21 attacks in the second half of 1982 and 10 in the first three months of this year.

A study of the available figures for reported cases of attack and armed robbery on merchant vessels reveals a problem of increasing seriousness, both in nature and frequency, the report said.

"There are grounds for considerable concern over the genuine threat that piracy poses to the safety of life at sea", it added.

There have also been many pirate attacks on Vietnamese boat people

Marxists are dropped in Volta reshuffle

Ougadougou (AFP, Reuter) — President Jean-Baptiste Ouédraogo of Upper Volta has reshuffled his Government, it was announced here last night. It was the first reshuffle since he seized power in a military coup from Colonel Saye Zerbo, on November 7, 1982.

The most significant change is the departure of a team of young government ministers affiliated with the hardline Patriotic League for Development, a Marxist organization that supports Captain Thomas Sankara, the former Prime Minister, who was arrested on May 17.

Major Ouédraogo retains the post of Defence Minister in addition to his presidency. Several of his closest colleagues remain in the Government.

Major Ouédraogo recently purged radical members of the People's Salvation Council.

President, Minister of Defence, Veterans Affairs: Major Jean-Baptiste Ouédraogo; Foreign Affairs: Major Maurice Torregio; Justice: Major Maurice Torregio; Education: Major Maurice Torregio; Health: Major Maurice Torregio; Agriculture: Major Maurice Torregio; Industry: Major Maurice Torregio; Commerce: Major Maurice Torregio; Labour: Major Maurice Torregio; Transport: Major Maurice Torregio; Information: Major Maurice Torregio; Culture: Major Maurice Torregio; Sports: Major Maurice Torregio; Tourism: Major Maurice Torregio; Social Affairs: Major Maurice Torregio; Secretariat of State for Water Resources: Major Maurice Torregio.

Basle thanked by drug firm as dioxin slips across border at dawn

From Our Correspondent Geneva

Forty-one barrels of deadly dioxin waste, originally from Seveso, northern Italy, arrived in Switzerland at the weekend. Hermetically sealed and under electronic and video surveillance, they are now in a deep

vault in the Hoffman La Roche chemical company's compound in Basle.

The waste, resulting from an explosion in 1976 which released a poisonous cloud of fumes, went missing for eight months and was found last month in northern France. It

had been kept at a French military camp until it was moved at the weekend.

The drums were taken under police escort at night from the army camp at Sissone to Basle, arriving at dawn. The blue lorries passed through the gates without even a murmur from

Switzerland's usually vociferous ecologists, to the obvious relief of Hoffman La Roche, which soon afterwards issued a statement thanking the people of Basle.

It is intended that the contents of the drums — now prominently labelled as dioxin,

which was not previously done — be incinerated by Basle's other big chemical company, Ciba Geigy.

One result of the affair is vigorous advocacy by several countries for close international collaboration in disposal of toxic waste

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- You will give away 33 per cent of your asset backing.
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PUBLISHING
Writers' rights

Put your money where it won't get eroded away.



At Volkswagen we rust-proof our cars while we are building them.

Not afterwards when the rot may have already started. And your investment has begun to erode away.

For good measure we flood the inside of the doors and other cavities with around 200 litres of wax, using our own patented process.

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And we always use galvanised bolts to hold

them all together. Because we don't want them to be held together with rust.

All Jetta exhausts are aluminised to give them a much longer lifespan. And in common with all Volkswagens, the Jetta has a roof underneath, covered with lashings of bitumen wax, to keep out the elements.

We're the only manufacturer to give you a 3-year paint-warranty on top of a 6-year body protection warranty.

And incidentally we do not stipulate any intermediate inspections, or retreatments.

So you know that, however long you keep your Jetta, it'll keep its price up.

And in the end you'll find yourself in a sellers' market. But hasn't that always been a very good reason for investing in a Volkswagen?



Jetta.

PROFILE: Dame Ninette de Valois

Why Madam is a winner on points

Nobby Clark

"I must warn you, I'm useless to interview. I'm horribly discreet." To kick off with such a revealing remark was an encouragement. For Dame Ninette de Valois meant to indicate that she would not be drawn into talking about people, either to praise or to blame; that she abhors the fashion for revelatory biography which spotlights all the blemishes one has striven hard to conceal; that she detests gossip and disloyalty.

But she said more than she meant to say; it is typical of her to assume that I should hardly want to talk about herself. Modesty of this order is rare indeed, and at first sight astonishing in a woman who has helped shape the cultural history of England in the twentieth century. Yet it is in keeping with her character; all her achievements have been for the Royal Ballet, not for herself. She has been ruthless (and wise) in her pursuit of glory and excellence for her dancers, totally indifferent to whether she should receive the credit for having done so. Ninette de Valois has pride; she has no vanity.

When the Bolshoi Ballet were on a visit to London, they were perplexed to see Dame Ninette in the self-service canteen beneath the Opera House lining up with her tray behind at least twenty others, including grubby stage-hands and sweaty cymets. Maria Liepa, one of the few who spoke English, voiced their bewilderment. "Why is she queuing?"

"Because she wants some shepherd's pie." The answer did not satisfy. The Russians, who are used to having one eating place for principal dancers, another for corps de ballet, another for workmen, thought that their supposed classlessness was being gently satirized by this odd demonstration. They simply could not understand that the founder and creator of the Royal Ballet should receive no special treatment, still less that she should not want it.

Nevertheless, people do subtly adapt their behaviour in her presence, in acknowledgement of her authority. It was during the war that one of her young dancers, Gordon Hamilton, began the habit of addressing her as "Madam", and it is unthinkable that anyone

Nevertheless, people do subtly adapt their behaviour in her presence, in acknowledgement of her authority. It was during the war that one of her young dancers, Gordon Hamilton, began the habit of addressing her as "Madam", and it is significant that the habit spread

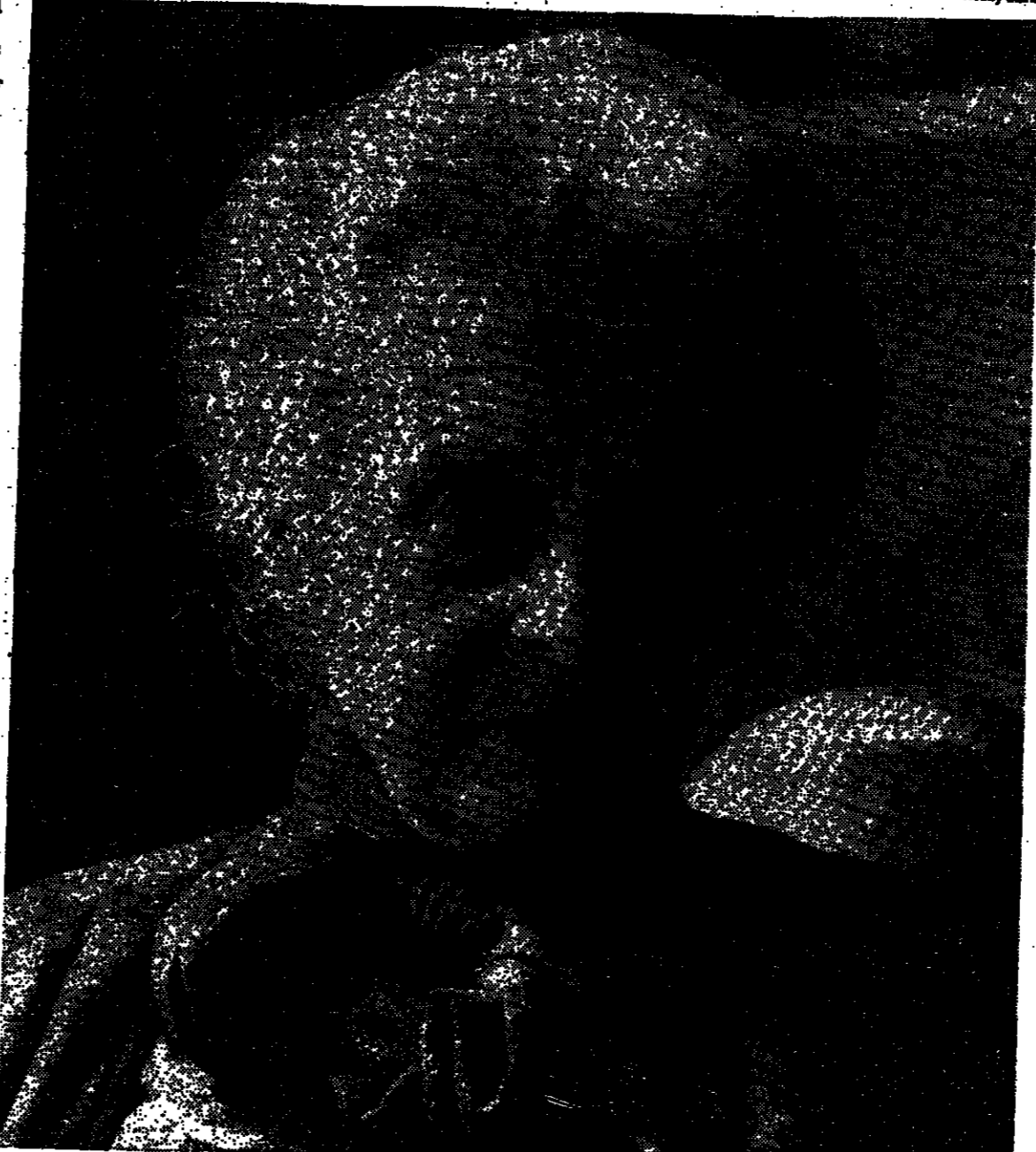
and persisted. Now, no one would dream of calling her anything else.

In the ballet world, where "daring" is an ordinary term, Madam stands firm as a figure of propriety and decorum. She is emphatically not theatrical, flamboyant, or wild. The most colourful word she might use is "swindle", and generations of dancers given to looser language have lowered their voices and sweetened their tongues at her approach. Her moral influence, no less than her cultural achievements, has been enormous.

This is not to say that Madam is austere. She has a beguiling sense of fun and enjoys a giggle, throwing her head back to savour the humour. She is an easy, relaxing conversationalist, except when a point of principle is at stake, when she will present arguments cogently and forcefully, hugging the last word. When I suggested that audiences at Covent Garden sometimes dressed shabbily, she was quick to put me right. "Before the war, audiences in England were always overdressed. There was consternation when Thomas Beecham dared to appear in shirt-sleeves at a rehearsal. But in the great opera houses of Europe it was never the fashion to dress up. After all, a state theatre should belong to the people, shouldn't it?"

Tradition is the deepest value which Madam cherishes, fittingly for someone who has invented tradition in English dancing. She is herself the product of several traditions. Born in County Wicklow, Ireland, 85 years ago, in a well-to-do Anglo-Irish family teetering on the edge of impoverishment, she inherited a Victorian sense of discipline, tempered by gentle Irish whimsy. There is also some Scottish thrift in her blood (her great-grandmother wrote the famous *Memoirs of a Highland Lady*), and some French aristocratic bearing. She is descended from both the Montmorencys and a branch of the de Valois family, from whom she took her professional name. Her real name is Edris Stannis, "Edris" being taken from a character in Marie Corelli's novel *Ardath*. "Edris is not so much sweet woman as most perfect angel! A dream of Heaven made human!"

As a girl, she began her professional career in the bosom of another tradition, that of the music hall (she appeared with George Robey), and performed "fancy dancing" on the end of Brighton Pier. When she graduated to ballet, she was taught in the oldest school, the French, then took lessons from Cecchetti, the great Italian teacher, and joined Diaghilev's company for two years, absorbing the Russian influence. No wonder, then, with so



many traditional echoes informing her intelligence, she should be an establisher rather than an innovator. It was an accident of medical history which compelled Ninette de Valois to give up dancing at the age of 25. Having suffered persistent pain in her left side, which she had attributed to be normal agonies of a dancer's life (audiences would be surprised if they knew how much routine pain dancers tolerate every day), she at length discovered that she had been stricken for years with polio. "I wasn't sorry to give up; it hurt too much." A lesser woman

would have disappeared from the records, but her brave spirit could not envisage inactivity. There was at that time no balletic tradition in England. Bold and stubborn, she determined to start one, drawing on her deep conviction that the time was right. In 1931 she founded her Academy of Choreographic Art with just six students (this eventually grew into the Royal Ballet School, now one of the finest in the world and the cradle of an immediately identifiable English style), and in the same year, her little group of dancers. Of necessity, she became a

choreographer, creating 17 of the company's first 22 ballets, and an administrator with guts and genius in equal measure. She persuaded Lilian Baylis to give her a theatre (Sadler's Wells), she enticed Frederick Ashton away from the other fledgling group founded by Marie Rambert, and she signed on as musical director the marvellous Constant Lambert. From such tiny beginnings grew the Royal Ballet, which has since given the world scores of brilliant dancers, and half a dozen of international and historic status.

In retrospect, Madam cherishes the greatest moment in 1946, when the company gave its first performance at the Opera House, Covent Garden. "To open our own opera house after the war was very important. It meant we had a home." And not any old home, either, but the correct and fitting one. Sol Hurok, the American impresario, begged Madam to take her company to New York, where he had a small theatre ready for them. But she resisted. "I felt that we should not make the right impact in anything less than the Metropolitan Opera House, and we should do better to wait." An English ballet company in a Broadway theatre in 1947 would have aroused some interest; at the Met in 1949 it created a sensation, providing one of the most historic occasions in the theatrical history of New York.

How did Ninette de Valois do it? First of all, she has consistently been concerned with the future. "You cannot expect dancers to take the long view. They don't always know what is best for them." And she believes in the virtues of discipline. Generations of dancers have been terrified of displeasing her, an inhibition which makes for powerful concentration. Did she think she was a disciplinarian? "Well, so many people must have told you that I am, so there is no point in denying it, is there?" It shows in the way she creates her ballets, which are thoroughly worked out in her own mind before she takes them to the dancers, imposing her pattern on their talents. It shows also in her desire not to allow dancers to perform as often as they might wish. "Creative work suffers from too much trundling around, and our company was never at its best after a gruelling tour."

Her abhorrence of complacency leads her continually to question standards, never to be satisfied, always to exhort greater effort, a habit which some have found irritating and undermining.

Her energy shows no sign of abating. She still takes a great interest in the school and is delighted at their recent success with English country dances, which she has been recommending for years. She is frequently to be seen at the Opera House, which suggests to some colleagues that she is reluctant to lose control, a view which she would heartily contest. But it is true she does like to be consulted on all important decisions, and will not yield to other opinions without a fight. Deference is not grudgingly paid to a woman who might be harsh in debate, but who has proven so often to be fired by vision and sustained by experience. The para-

doxical responses she evokes were summed up by one who said: "She is wilful, arbitrary, inspired."

Dame Ninette lives in a ground-floor flat opposite the river in Barnes, with her charming doctor husband, Arthur Connell, whom she married nearly 50 years ago, who is the only person in the world to call her Edris. The flat is full of sensible chairs with straight, hard backs and furniture by no means ostentatious. A handsome, plain Edwardian wall-clock ticks loudly. Madam is clearly not a hoarder, hardly anything here gives away the identity of the inhabitants, nor is there anything superfluous; it is said she begrudges every penny, especially those spent on herself.

Until very recently the Connells lived in a little house along the road. But they had to leave it when the stairs became too much for Dame Ninette. I realized, with a shock, that she had been in pain with arthritis throughout two hours we had been together, she wears a plastic collar covered by a scarf, which one tends not to notice. When I went to shake her hand, on departure, she withdrew it as if she had touched a hot iron. Yet she never once complained.

"She shops in Barnes High Street (complete strangers seem to know me, isn't it amazing? That's what television does!) and does her own cooking. Her greatest pleasure now is reading the classics, and her most useful piece of furniture the bookcase, stuffed with Shakespeare, Tolstoy, Trollope, George Eliot, Hardy, and her great favourite, Jane Austen. "There would be nothing worse than not being able to read", she says.

"You should read the classics once every five years, and discover them each time with a fresh eye. I recently returned to Milton. Marvellous! She also enjoys writing, and had some of her poems read at the Shakespeare Institute in Stratford. Yet she has never kept a diary; that would be 'indiscreet'. One can see why Natalia Makarova once said: "If Madam were a man I would have married her. She makes me think."

Of course, Dame Ninette is such a public figure that celebrations of her achievements and stirring character are frequent. It is still something of an ordeal for her to appear on stage and receive adulation, for she is at heart a shy woman. "I have never felt comfortable taking a curtain call. Fred Ashton had to tell me not to hold the flowers upside down like an umbrella. I still try to remember that advice."

Brian Masters



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uring our facts
Barbara Castle
The Labour Party started the election campaign with dry powder. No opposition party could expect a much better target than a government which had to defend three million unemployed, an economy showing only tentative evidence of recovery and a record in which only the Falklands were measurable successes, with the rest having to be taken on trust from a not very elegant band of ministers. A properly conducted campaign, showing some dent in the Tory position, should have been enough to reduce the danger of enfilade from the Alliance.



THE LOVE THAT LABOUR LOST

By the closing weekend of the election the two opposition parties seem largely to have thrown away their manifestos in favour of a single slogan: "Stop Thatcher". That is also the message of that part of the daily and weekly press which supports either Labour or the Alliance. The Tory and Alliance campaigns will be reviewed in these columns in turn tomorrow and on Wednesday. What is it today which can explain why the Labour Party enters the last few days of campaigning in such a sorry state, when, by any normal standards, it should have started the campaign with much to commend its position? Indeed during the first week of campaigning it actually started to gain points from the Conservatives.

The Labour Party had been living a lie; what is perhaps surprising is that the pressure of a mere three weeks' electioneering has so cruelly exposed the deceit at the core of the party's travail. That deceit springs from the change in its traditional position as a broad church to one of a narrow sect. It can be discerned from the way, even in an election, so much of the party's investive seems to be coded to apply to different wings of itself, rather than to attract the widest measure of support.

The roots of this sectarian socialism can be traced to the ill-fated decision to lift the ban on dual membership of the Labour Party and sundry sectarian or militant groupings. That decision even condoned fraternal relationships with Communist parties of east Europe. That is when the rot set in which has now disfigured the face of the party. It has allowed its activist elements to be taken over by socialists who seem to have no feeling for the millions of Labour voters. The same attitude to their members can be found among activists in the trade unions, who have so much to say in the Labour Party's councils.

THE PARTIES AND THE SCHOOLS

Surely the open threat posed by the Labour Party to private schooling in general and the great schools in particular would deserve more attention were the outcome of the election in keener dispute. As it is even the most vocal and camera-struck of public school headmasters are barely heard. They feel secure, and rightly, for "schools in the community" and other dangerous paragraphs in Labour's manifesto should be read only as an exercise in political wish fulfillment.

The result is a void in the middle of Conservative thinking about both economy and society in years to come. The manifesto looks back with some justifiable pride at efforts, concentrated in the 1980 Education Act, to give education's consumers some leverage against the over-mighty cartel of teachers and administrators. But for the rest Lord Beloff's party committee on education met in vain as edited for the manifesto their efforts read like nothing so much as the blandest of handouts from the information office of the Department of Education and Science.

Nowhere does the Conservative manifesto mention that dread word comprehensive. This embarrassed reticence is a mistake. In most parts of the country common schooling from 11 to 16 is here to stay. The object for governments, councils, parents and all those other "consumers" of education who are often forgotten is to build on the good secondary schools (which may go under the alias of sixth form colleges) and push the improving schools.

Saving parish records

From Commander W. R. Knocker, RN (retd)
Sir, Due to temporary absence from home, I may not have read all the printed correspondence on this subject but may I suggest what seems to be a convenient and simple solution to all such comments I have read? It is based on the action taken, with full approval of our rector and parochial church council, by this small Somerset village.

continuous deterioration of valuable records over the last 400-odd years has been, at the very least, arrested. For those, as in my case, who have no previous experience of transcribing an old register and no knowledge of the stylised script called Secretary Hand, I can assure them the task proved to be much easier and quicker than expected.

made a quasi-formal oral approach to the chairman of the Board of Inland Revenue indicating the Liberal Party's wish for such discussions in relation to the departmental restructuring which would, in our view, be necessary in the context of our proposals for credit taxation. The reply was that such discussions could not take place without the approval of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and that it was extremely unlikely that he would give his consent.

Whitehall talks

From Mr Philip Goldenberg, Liberal/SDP Alliance candidate for Woking
Sir, It is hardly surprising that, as Mr Peter Hennessy reports today (May 31), opposition parties, invited upon the announcement of a general election to engage in discussions with senior civil servants, have other more immediate priorities.

The problems that have arisen on this occasion because of a snap election highlight the need for an agreed convention whereby senior civil servants can, without seeking specific ministerial consent, engage in regular and constructive dialogue with opposition parties on major issues, particularly as they affect the Civil Service. This would be beneficial to the Civil Service and to opposition parties alike.

Of course, this information is more than ten years out of date now but it is noteworthy that memories of such service were fresher then and thus judgments better informed.

Tactical voting and other issues in run-up to polls

From Lord Gladwyn
Sir, Mr Parkinson says that a vote for the Alliance would, in effect, be a vote in favour of a Labour majority in the coming election. This is because it might result in the Conservatives losing certain marginal seats. Indeed it might, thus preventing a Tory "landslide" so much feared and deprecated by Mr Francis Pym.

that legitimacy is what Mrs Thatcher most hankers for, when she calls for a "massive majority".
Yours faithfully,
ERIC CHALKER,
21 Inglede Close,
Beckenham,
Kent.
June 2.

From Mr Rhys S. Jones
Sir, To cut through the tangled maze of issues being raised in the present election campaign, may I suggest a simple parallel?
Mrs Thatcher is sometimes portrayed as too uncompromising. So was Charles de Gaulle when he was elected president of a chaotic France in 1959. French voters realised their country needed a "benevolent dictator".

He was not allowed by the Prime Minister to ask a number of important questions. It seemed to viewers that her monologue could not be interrupted without seeming rudeness on his part.
Having failed to notice that "Mr Day" was knighted three and a half years ago, one wonders what else has escaped her notice; much I fear.
As a Tory voter, may I sign myself Yours sceptically,
FLORA JACOBS,
14 Holland Park Road, W14.
June 2.

From Mr Eric Chalker
Sir, Your leader of May 31 defines a landslide as "a great majority of votes leading to an overwhelming parliamentary victory". You do not acknowledge, however, that an overwhelming parliamentary victory can occur under our silly voting system without even a small majority - in fact a minority. That, of course, is what usually happens.

Why stop there? Surely those wards within Sheffield and other Labour controlled authorities which return Conservative councillors should have the right to cede from the council? Bearing in mind the rates that Councillor Blunkett's authority levies, this will be an extremely popular policy.
Yours faithfully,
NICHOLAS BENNETT,
22 Almond Grove,
Hampstead,
Gillingham,
Kent.
May 31.

From Mr Bernard Greenwood
Sir, If Mrs Thatcher would press the button because she would rather be dead than red, then let her, and all like-minded people, be prepared to commit personal suicide should Russia ever be poised to invade Britain. And let those more courageous of us who would rather resist, by passive or active guerrilla means, a Russian takeover, knowing that invaded peoples do eventually recover their freedom, even if it takes generations, remain alive to do so.
We don't want to be like the millionaire's chauffeur, who was told: "Drive off the cliff, James, I'm committing suicide."
Yours,
BERNARD GREENWOOD,
Woodcote,
Chagford,
Devon.
June 1.

Without the sports and social clubs many of which would be deprived of facilities for a huge range of sporting and leisure activities ranging over cricket, squash, rugby, tennis, bowls, darts, snooker, fishing and numerous other pursuits.
All local authorities are empowered under Section 40 of the General Rate Act 1967 to give up to 50 per cent discretionary rates relief to clubs which are "not established or conducted for profit" and are "wholly or mainly used for purposes of recreation." Yet many authorities heap full rates on the clubs, which means on the members.
Some rates burdens on non-profit-

Victims of crime

From Mr Clive Davies
Sir, C. H. Rolph (May 25) knows much more about crime and punishment than most of us do, and is probably right in selecting neighbourhood watch schemes and victim support schemes as the only two worthwhile developments to have emerged from the depressingly sterile quagmire of contemporary criminological and penological thinking and practice (though I'd note a third myself, the mediation and arbitration schemes still embryonic in Britain, but ably advocated for years by people like Robert Kilroy-Silk and Martin Wright). He is entirely right in deploring the shoe-string budget on which the National Association of Victim Support Schemes has to operate.

Marriage and tax

From Mrs Jean Viall
Sir, Mr David Lindsay's letter (May 25) prompts me to put to readers the view of the National Council of Women of Great Britain on the subject of marriage and tax.
In December 1980 Sir Geoffrey Howe presented a Green Paper entitled "The Taxation of Husband and Wife". One of the proposed options was to make the individual basic unit for tax by the separate assessment and taxation of the incomes of husband and wife, with the phasing out of the married man's allowance and the wife's earned income allowance, and their replacement by a personal tax allowance for each spouse made fully transferable between them. This option is the policy of the Council and mirrors our concern for the unfavourable treatment given under present tax regulations to the married couple with only one earner.

Spirit of service

From General Sir Anthony Farrar-Hockley
Sir, Your remarks concerning conscription (leader, May 23) stimulated some interesting responses on May 26 but *inter alia* these left hanging further questions deserving comment.
Mr Woolcombe and Mr van der Schrieck question from different standpoints public acceptability of conscription. It is commonly said that the British people are averse to it but I have reason to doubt this. During 1968-70, while a defence fellow of Exeter College, Oxford, I undertook a study of national service and British society and following a wide ranging survey, found to my surprise that of males between the ages of 16 to 79 years inclusive (no females were canvassed) overall 53.86 per cent favoured the reintroduction of conscription for military service, 78.5 per cent favoured reintroduction for service of some kind, including military.

Compensation scheme

was established in 1964. Does it not apply with equal force to the victim support schemes idea?
Classical Toryism restricts the legitimate sphere of governmental activity to the preservation of internal order, protection from foreign enemies and the administration of justice. All crimes are breaches of internal order and many result in grave injustice to their victims.
All Tories, then, must agree with state support for victims of crime, recognizing them as victims of the state's failure to meet its minimal obligations. Labourites like me and Alliance supporters will all subscribe to this, adding the welfare state principle that it's desirable to help the unfortunate.

'Peace for Galilee' one year later

From Lord Chelwood
Sir, I hope you will allow space for this letter on June 6, one year to the day since Israel launched its "peace for Galilee" operation. An estimated 20,000 people, mainly civilians, died in Israel's ruthless bombardment of the towns and cities of southern Lebanon, and at least 50,000 were maimed.
For what? A year later it is clear that, far from improving the chances of peace in Lebanon or in the Middle East as a whole, Israel's invasion and continued occupation not only fuel more civil strife but could well provoke another full scale civil war, this time with the added risk of superpower confrontation.

Only America can persuade Israel that it is in her best interests to abide by the law and cooperate in the latest efforts to reach a peaceful settlement of the Arab-Israeli dispute, and bring home the cost of failure.
The question President Eisenhower asked in 1957 has never been more apposite: "Should a nation which attacks and occupies foreign territory in the face of United Nations' disapproval be allowed to impose the conditions of its withdrawal? If so, I fear we will have turned back the clock of international order."
Yours sincerely,
CHELWOOD,
House of Lords,
June 3.

North-South divide

From Mr Nicholas Bennett
Sir, Councillor David Blunkett, the Labour leader of Sheffield City Council (May 27), puts forward the novel constitutional argument that local authorities under the control of his political party should have the right to "maximum separation" from central government.

Rampant rape
From Mr Alan Mattingly
Sir, Your leading article on the mixed blessing of the oilseed rape "explosion" (May 30) will have struck a chord with many walkers horse-riders and cyclists who are now finding hundreds of their footpaths and bridleways disappearing beneath this tall, yellow crop.
According to the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, farmers are prohibited from disturbing the surface of paths that follow the edges of fields and are required to restore after ploughing those rights of way that cross fields. Unfortunately, these laws are about as effective as those which make the dropping of litter an offence, with the result that crops are too often grown across public paths (all of which are highways in law).

Disenfranchised

From Mr Peter Anderson
Sir, It may be of interest to your readers to know that probably most British citizens currently working overseas have been disenfranchised by the current electoral arrangements.
The day that the general election was announced, I wrote to my electoral registration office requesting the necessary forms to register my family's votes. A reply from that office dated May 18, enclosing the forms, required them to be returned to that office by noon on May 20 to be effective.
PETER ANDERSON,
c/o Llewelyn-Davies Weekes,
Moosa Abdul Rahman Hassan Building,
PO Box 5246,
Salutante of Oman,
Mav 26.

An unfair levy
From Mr E. J. Lee
Sir, During the course of the interview with Anthony Smith, Director of the British Film Institute, which was the subject of an article in *The Times* dated May 11, 1983, he is reported as saying that a source of income for a new fund to finance film production would be the existing Eady levy. This is a view which is strongly contested by all sections of the British cinema exhibition industry.
It had some economic and equitable justification when the cinema was the only user of films. That situation changed fundamentally with the advent of widespread national television broadcasting which was followed by video cassettes and discs and is due to be followed by cable and satellites, all of which use feature films made and paid for by the cinema, as a major part of their programming. They also rely heavily on the promotional value of the cinema as a "shop window" for those films.

Even so, I hazard the view that if such a survey was undertaken now, there would be widespread support for conscription, at least a substantial minority.

Even so, I hazard the view that if such a survey was undertaken now, there would be widespread support for conscription, at least a substantial minority.
Your leader, Sir, advocated conscription for military reasons. The greater number of those who told me during my survey that they wished to see it reintroduced did so primarily because they believed in its social benefits, though their ideas about this benefit varied considerably in kind and emphasis.
The weight of opinion in the armed forces since 1945 has been against conscription because it involves an expensive training system producing a markedly lower level of expertise and stability in the standing forces. Senior officers have doubted whether, with pressures on money available for defence, there would be enough for both such a manning bill and for arms and equipment.
These professional views have not been overborne by the dividends of conscription: the disposal of a mobilisation reserve of millions of men and perhaps women; an identification of a majority of families in the land with defence due to the involvement of their sons and daughters, an involvement which

When death approached unlocked her silent throat.

When death approached unlocked her silent throat.
Luckily for us, Brahms's note - and notes - spanned over forty years, so he was in no position to produce a swansong.
Yours sincerely,
EDWARD LOWBURY,
79 Vernon Road,
Birmingham.

Premature swansong

From Dr Edward Lowbury
Sir, Perhaps Paul Griffiths (May 9) both in error about this. As Orlando Gibbons put it in his famous madrigal: The silver swan, who living had not note.
When death approached unlocked her silent throat.
Yours sincerely,
EDWARD LOWBURY,
79 Vernon Road,
Birmingham.

SMALL PRODUCERS

Rise of the mini-breweries

As many a saloon bar argument has been settled amicably over a pint of the best, the differences in brewing and marketing philosophy between the big brewers and their smaller competitors have been ironed out with both sides wondering what all the fuss was about in the first place.

There are still some sectors of the valuable real-ale lobby who have misguidedly continued strident criticism of the big brewers, little realizing that directly and indirectly the spread of the mini-brewery and the stability in the small brewery sector owes much to those they criticize.

It was Whitbread with its mini-brewery at the Alford Arms at Fritshen near Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire, which first showed that the big battalions are prepared to provide the best of both worlds. The recent decisions by Watney Combe Reid to introduce Ruddles County bitter in many of its tied houses demonstrates the realization that the widest customer choice is preferable to forcing a regimented marketing policy on the drinker.

The spread of mini-breweries throughout the country has been one of the most remarkable developments in the trade in the past three years. From only a handful of pubs having breweries on the premises a decade ago there are now an estimated 100 small breweries,

either attached to pubs or supplying the trade within a short radius of the brewery, 49 having opened in the past 18 months.

Although some professional brewers have been disparaging about the quality of some of the beer produced by the minis - the drinker gives them the benefit of the doubt to an extent that he would not with the products of the established brewers, the professionals complain - experience in operating equipment and the

the hearand of the world lager industry.

Now Watney Combe Reid have followed David Bruce, Whitbread and others into this field. A Watney pub in Pimlico, London, is now brewing its own beer to sell alongside the giant's better-known brands.

And in the Falklands the islanders and the garrison can now enjoy a pint of real ale thanks to a mini-brewery set-up by Everards, the Leicester independent brewer, and run by a local schoolmaster trained by Everards. The RAF even flew out the yeast used in the production of Penguin Ale - an interesting drop, as described by my *Times* colleague Allan Hamilton, who was recently in Port Stanley.

However, it is the independents who form the backbone of the brewing industry, despite having their ranks reduced by merger and rationalization since the war. Those that are left are now better able to withstand take-over attempts and to provide the regional choice in beer, and not just the real variety, that customers demand.

All regard real ale as the mainstay of their business but also meet the needs of those pubs and clubs which can only handle keg products because of cellarage problems and of those customers who prefer keg and bottled beers. Most independents also produce their own lager, not produced by the

technically correct bottom-fermentation method, but by a version of the traditional British top-fermentation process.

At the forefront of the independents who have projected their image as producers of quality products by the use of modern marketing methods are Ruddles of Langham, near Oakham, and Boddingtons of Manchester.

Ironically, Boddingtons have just replaced Ruddles as suppliers of real ales to British Rail's London station buffets, although the two brewers have differing views on the worth of this contract.

Boddingtons see it as an important shop window for their products, especially as 30 pubs in the London area will soon be serving the company's products. Ruddles, too, regard the BR station bars as an important outlet, but did not agree with BR's pricing policy.

Ruddles' agreement with Watney Combe Reid is being seen, however, as a bold step by the two companies, one which is likely to be followed by many other regional independent brewers and one which can only be beneficial to the industry as a whole.

Mr Tony Ruddie said: "It is a very enlightened policy of Watney's. The pubicans involved are showing enormous enthusiasm and they are all claiming that it is bringing new business."



Michael Chalcraft, president of the Institute of Brewing, and Charles Tidbury, chairman of the Brewers' Society. Centre: Kegs at the Courage brewery at Reading.

The esteem in which the regional brewers are held is reflected in the outcome of the brewing industry's own Brewex 83 competition held recently in Birmingham.

Thwaites Bitter from Blackburn was judged the country's best cask-conditioned bitter and Crown Brewery's Brenin Bitter from South Wales was judged best brewery-conditioned bitter. In the lager section Mansfield Brewery's Marksman beat off the national brands to win best lager and Matthew Brown's Slalom won best bottled lager.

However, it was Davenport, the Birmingham-based independent, which won six of the major awards, defeating competition from over 900 different brewers.

The independents have not, however, achieved such a following or higher profit ratios than the big brewers by sticking

doggedly to traditional markets and products.

Ruddles, who are now expanding production, have been regarded as something of innovators in beer packaging and most of the other independents have in the past been forced to hone their marketing efforts to such a fine pitch that they have developed fairly sophisticated sales programmes, based on local identity.

If you want to join in, a mini brewery could be built for less than £50,000, producing a best bitter for about 17p a pint. Or you could become the proprietor of a small established brewery currently on the market for £250,000 complete with its own pub in the next village of Market Bosworth.

David Young

TIED HOUSES

The threat to the local

The tied pub - where a leasing tenant is tied for specified products and service to a brewer who owns the pub - has been a cause for controversy for years. The last big investigation into the system was by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission, which after three years of investigating decided that on balance the tie was the best left as it was.

Now the European Commission is in the throes of introducing new rules affecting the tie and Britain's brewers believe that if the Commission goes too far the character of the British Pub could be irrevocably changed with a reduction in the number of outlets.

The number of tenanted pubs operating under the tied system has been declining anyway, although they account for nearly half of all fully on-licensed premises. There are more than 75,000 full on-licensed outlets in the United Kingdom, most of which are pubs.

Brewers own two thirds of these outlets, at the last count amounting to 49,000. In about 14,000 of these the brewers put in managers and that proportion has barely changed over the past 15 years.

In the same period of time the number of tenanted pubs has declined by a fifth. In the late 1960s there were about 45,000 tenanted pubs but at the last count in 1980 there were barely 35,000. The number has probably declined further since then as more pubs have been sold off by brewers to become "free houses."

The total number of full on-licenses, well over 80,000 until 30 years ago when numbers began to drop, has been showing a marginal rise in the past few years. In 1980 the number crept to more than 76,000.

The irony of the European intervention is that it all began before Britain joined the Common Market and when the focus of the Commission's attention was on Continental forms of brewery contract.

Typically, under these contracts a brewer could specify to the retailer which products to sell and how to do so. The quid pro quo for the retailer was a loan usually paid off over five years while the commitment to the brewers' products might well last ten years.

The nearest approach to this in Britain are loan arrangements by the brewers with free trade outlets, including some of the independently owned pubs and especially full on-licensed clubs which now number around 33,000.

But any agreement on taking a brewer's products operates only for the life of the loan in Britain and the pub or club normally has the option to pay off a brewer if it wants to switch to different patronage.

The unusual factor in Britain is the brewers' owning so many pub properties. In the nineteenth century many were acquired whose proprietors were in debt. But as bigger breweries came on the scene it was a means of ensuring to a reasonable extent a known level of demand for the brewer's

products, particularly important with a perishable commodity in which any over-production led to waste and losses to the brewer.

The European Commission's proposed regulations, due to be produced in their final form this month and operating from July, will not upset the tie on draught beer or most packaged beers.

But the fifth draft of the regulations does scrap the tie on wines and spirits and other supplies, like those of soft drinks and packaged snacks. It also affects services supplied by brewers although it is far from clear whether that will imperil the brewer's share of the extensive profits from fruit machines, known in the trade as Amusements With Prizes (AWP) machines.

Brewers and tenants have seen eye to eye about keeping the tie on draught beer. But the Brewers' Society and, for the tenants, the National Union of Licensed Victuallers (NULV) have taken opposing views about the dropping of the tie on the other items.

This dropping of the tie could eventually change the character of Britain's pubs, according to Mr Charles Tidbury chairman of the Brewers' Society and also chairman of Whitbread.

If the partnership between brewer and tenant, the backbone of the pub trade, were

Tenants would have to pay higher rents

seriously disturbed it could eventually erode the whole tenancy system, Mr Tidbury believes. He says: "Tenancy agreements are a carefully structured package. If any part is disturbed there are bound to be consequences for the other parts."

If brewers lost wines and spirits income because tenants bought supplies elsewhere, rents for tenants would be certain to rise, Mr Tidbury adds: "This would probably have an effect on the retailer's prices, including for beer. Brewers might have to review wholesale beer prices."

The NULV on the other hand wants tenants to have freedom of choice in buying. They have complained that tenants could buy wines and spirits supplies elsewhere - even in the local supermarket - more cheaply than from many brewers.

But it is common ground that by no means all tenants, if offered freedom, would opt out of the tie. The wines and spirits tie has already been dropped by some brewers and in one case the drop-out rate was only 30 per cent.

This was largely because separate transport meant extra expense for tenants. For those in remote country pubs, especially, it was advantageous to get all supplies at once when a brewer delivered the pub's beer.

DH

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IT DEPENDS ON WHICH WAY YOU LOOK AT IT.

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...BUT EVEN THAT IS TOO PRIMITIVE WHEN LOOKED AT AGAINST A YEAR, OR LET'S SAY TEN YEARS' INTAKE, BEARING IN MIND OTHER FACTORS SUCH AS BAGS OF CRISPS OR NUTS...

WHY IS IT EVERY TIME IT'S BERTIE'S ROUND HE TURNS INTO A POLITICIAN?

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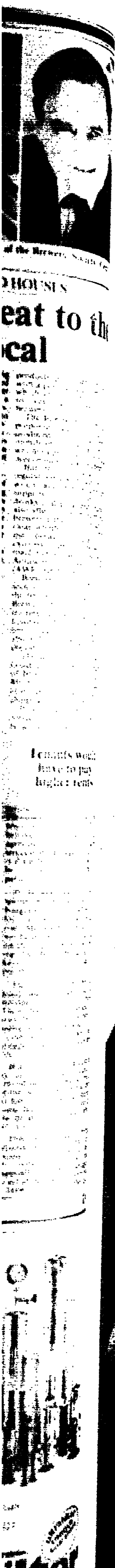
ultrafilter

سكولار من الاسهل

صكنا من الامم

"To run a business like ours successfully, we've found that thirty-two heads are better than one."

Douglas Strachan, Managing Director, Allied Breweries Limited.



There are thirty-two independent operating companies within Allied Breweries.

We could have shown you the 154 beers in our portfolio. But modesty, coupled with a shortage of very long bars, prevented us.

Our management style and our product range reflect our commitment to our customers - customers who these days are more demanding and more diverse than ever before.

We're determined to get as close to them as we can. And who's better qualified to do that?

A remote board in Burton? Or local companies with roots in their own communities and with names, faces and people that are known and recognised?

The answer is obvious, isn't it.

So, five years ago, we carried out the most genuine and the most thoroughgoing programme of devolution the brewing industry has ever seen.

Has it worked in practice?

Are we really giving the customers back what they always wanted?

Allow us to take you on a short pub crawl.

A few cases of cask conditioning.

1. **Tetley Bitter** needs no introduction if you hail from the north. It's the largest ale brand within Allied Breweries and easily the brand leader in the North East and North West.

And now that more and more pubs are serving it in the traditional form - through handpumps - Tetley Bitter is going from strength to strength.

2. **Peter Walker** was a Liverpool brewery that was acquired by Tetleys in the early sixties. The name disappeared from the scene, as names had a habit of doing in those days.

Now, once again, 'Peter Walker' can be found above the door of 67 pubs that offer traditional pub values and traditionally brewed cask conditioned ales. The results have proved nothing short of outstanding.

Peter Walker's return has been warmly welcomed by the people of Lancashire and Cheshire.

A little bit of local identity and pedigree has been faithfully restored.

3. **Ind Coope** used to be run as one single business, covering the whole of the south.

Bearing in mind that beer drinkers' tastes in King's Lynn were never going to match those in Truro, Ind Coope set out to restore local managements, each responsible for their own market.

So it was in 1979 that some famous old names like Benskins, Taylor Walker and Friary Meux returned.

So, too, did Halls Oxford & West Brewery Co., now independent of Ind Coope, to quench the thirsts of the West Country.

These companies offer their own individual traditional draught beers, and pubs which once again look and feel like pubs.

As a result, Ind Coope has been transformed: confidence and profits are surging ahead.

4. **Ansells Mild and Bitter** have been household names in the Midlands for over a hundred years.

Indeed, Ansells' drinkers will tell you that they're unbeatable.

The judges in the Great Western Beer Festival obviously agree.

Because when they adjudicated the cask-conditioned beers, Ansells Mild took first prize for Mild in 1981 and 1982, while Ansells Bitter took first prize for Bitter in 1982.

Will anyone still swallow keg beers?

You might suppose that traditional draught ales have elbowed out keg beers.

Until you look at the success of John Bull.

We brewed it to succeed a long line of quality beers, for drinkers looking for a consistent, reliable pint.

Launched in 1980 by the Romford Brewery Co., its sales have exceeded our best expectations.

Available in more than 30,000 outlets, John Bull is doubling the sales of the product it replaced.

Meanwhile, north of the border, the Alloa Brewery has scored a major success with Diamond Export and Diamond Heavy.

Obviously, our keg beers still have a lot to offer.

Lager. Quality no matter what the gravity.

Brewing lagers to a consistently high standard right across the gravity range is a daunting brief.

But not for the Wrexham Lager Beer Company. As the oldest lager brewery in the U.K. (it celebrated its centenary in 1982) it has an unrivalled depth of experience and skill.

Which goes a long way to explaining why their lagers' praises have been sung in recent lager competitions.

At Brewex '83 it won first prize in the U.K. draught lager class for products between 1030° and 1037° with Wrexham Draught Lager.

In the UK draught lager class for products between 1038° and 1043° it gained second prize with draught Lowenbrau.

And in the international bottled lagers competition, for lagers between 1044° and 1056° with a field of 64 entrants from all over the world, the brewery gained second prize with Skol Special Strength.

National brands. Aren't they having a flat time of it?

Quite the contrary.

Long Life, our renowned brand leader in England and Wales, has increased its market share in the packaged light, pale and export market.

(No mean achievement when you consider the competition in the premium quality sector.)

Skol remains Allied Breweries' biggest brand, having consolidated its position as the best known lager in the UK and one of the most famous beer brands in the world.

And bearing in mind the trend towards the low gravity products in the lager market, we're delighted with the rise and rise of our premium quality Lowenbrau range.

As Lowenbrau's UK agents, we can proudly say that it's brewed to the Reinheitsgebot - the strict system of quality control exercised in Germany.

And we can proudly add that there's a handsome increase in Lowenbrau sales since last year.

A flat time of things? Not for our brands at any rate.

Are our 'take-home' beers being taken home?

In one of the fastest-growing sectors of the market we're delighted to report that we have the fastest-growing company.

Namely, Allied Breweries Take Home Limited.

Within the last year it has achieved market leadership in England and Wales.

The Oranjeboom boom.

As you've seen, reintroducing well-loved brews to their former markets has been a particularly successful policy of ours in Britain.

But it's also met with success abroad, too.

You only have to consider the story of Oranjeboom.

When we acquired the Oranjeboom brewery in Rotterdam in 1968, Oranjeboom had been withdrawn from the Dutch market and retained merely for sales overseas.

But when we relaunched it a few months ago, such was the surge of demand from hundreds of local licensees, that they formed queues outside the brewery's order office.

The return of the satisfied customer.

We hope you've enjoyed our rather circuitous journey.

We hope you have the chance to sample a good few of the brews we've passed along the way.

We hope, too, you'll find evidence to support our claim that we are closer than ever before to the heart-beat of our customers.

Close enough, literally, to overhear their requests at the bar.

Be it for traditional beers, conviviality, food or entertainment.

We're immensely proud of what we've achieved.

Quite clearly our policy is the right one.

Because last year, when beer consumption went down, guess what happened?

Allied sales went up.



ALLIED BREWERIES

Stock Exchange Prices

Capitalization and week's change

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Begin Today. Dealings End, June 17. Contango Day, June 20. Settlement Day, June 27.

Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days. (Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)

THE TIMES 1000 1982/1983 The World's Top Companies. The top 1000 UK companies with an estimated value of £100 billion...

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Main table of stock exchange prices, organized by sector: BRITISH FUNDS, METALS, LOCAL AUTHORITIES, DOLLAR STOCKS, BANKS AND DISCOUNTS, BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES, COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL, FINANCIAL TRUSTS, SHIPING, MINES, INSURANCE, INVESTMENT TRUSTS, OIL, and PROPERTY. Each entry includes company name, price, and weekly change.

THE WEEK AHEAD by Our Financial Staff

Election dominates cheerless markets

The election will inevitably dominate the markets this week. For the stock market at least, it is probably just as well that there is very little company news of any significance. Only two leading companies report figures - Pilkington Brothers and Reed International. The news from both will be poor by comparison with the previous year.

ECONOMIC VIEW

Pound retains strong sentiment Sterling's sharp drop on Friday gave the markets a bit of a fright but the underlying sentiments remain strongly in favour of the pound and most analysts expect it to continue strong next week and after the seemingly inevitable Conservative victory. Nor do the statistical numbers out this week look likely to provide the Government with any great anxiety. Chief interest in the City, however, will focus on the May money supply figures released tomorrow. Here the analysts have drawn themselves up into two opposing camps. One believes that money growth will again be overly-rapid, pushing the aggregates further above target and pointing to some tightening of policy after the election. The other believes the April surge was due to a one-off government spending spree and that the May figures will show signs of slowdown. Also out tomorrow are the wholesale price indices for May, which will provide a useful indication of the likely course of inflation later this year. Final retail sales and credit business figures for April, and the first-quarter balance of payments. The last item will be scrutinized in particular by the Labour Party to see how much money has been flowing out of Britain into overseas stocks and shares, one of the political issues of the day. On election day itself Thursday, central government borrowing figures for May is published. This will again be of principal interest to the City, that government spending has subsided in line with plans. Also out on Thursday are provisional figures for car production in May, followed on Friday by May usable steel production and the latest monthly figures from the building societies.

Jeremy Warner

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FIXED-INTEREST STOCKS

Table of fixed-interest stocks including shares like Abbey, B&S, and various bank shares with their respective prices and yields.

Eurobonds prices (yields and premiums)

Table of Eurobonds prices, yields, and premiums for various currencies and maturities.

INVESTORS' NOTEBOOK

Engineering pioneers to raise £500,000

Statham Duff Stoop (SDS), one of the City's lesser known broking firms, is preparing to launch two companies on the USM this month. Metal Sciences (Holdings) is a greenfield operation which qualifies for a listing because it has patented a process for the production of an improved shot-blasting grit...

Marsh & McLennan - a truly global enterprise



AN INFORMATION MEETING will be held at 3pm on Thursday 9th June, 1983, in the Merchant Taylors' Hall, 30 Threadneedle Street, London, EC2. The Chairman of the Board and other members of management will summarise the proceedings of the annual meeting of stockholders of Marsh & McLennan Companies, Inc., which was held in New York on 18th May, 1983, and respond to questions.

Marsh & McLennan | Bowring

Copies of Marsh & McLennan Annual Report for 1982 and proxy statement may be obtained on application to The Secretary, C.T. Bowring & Co. Limited, The Bowring Building, Tower Place, London EC3P 3BE (Tel: 01-283 3100 ext 2011).

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LORD SIEFF, Chairman.

- SUPPORT FOR BRITISH INDUSTRY
• Over 90% of our clothing, home furnishings and foodstuffs that can be grown or processed in temperate climates are produced in Britain.
• Many Marks & Spencer suppliers have invested heavily in modern technology.
• More than 170,000 people in the U.K. today are employed making, distributing and selling St Michael goods.
• We are served by suppliers who are among the best in the world.

- TRADING HIGHLIGHTS
• We opened 316,000 sq.ft. of new selling space worldwide.
• Between March 1982 and March 1983, the prices of our general merchandise increased by 15% and our foods by 2.3%.
• We increased volume sales as a result of improved quality and values.
• Total exports from the U.K. to our overseas customers and our stores in Europe and Canada amounted to £67.9 million.

GROUP RESULTS 1982-83
52 week trading period (last year 53 weeks).
Group Total (excluding sales tax) up 14% 2505.5
Sales by U.K. Stores 2276.2
Direct Export Sales 27.6
Sales by European Stores 64.4
Sales by Canadian Stores 137.3
Group Profit before Tax up 7.7% 239.3
Group Profit after Tax up 12% 135.2

We believe that the problems facing our community today cannot be solved by Government alone. Business has a responsibility which goes well beyond paying taxes. Marks & Spencer's contribution to community work and charitable causes cost £2.5 million last year. We believe this to be a valuable investment.

Marks & Spencer

A copy of the full Annual Report can be obtained by writing to: The Secretary, Room C133, Michael House, Baker Street, London W1A 1DN.

COMMODITIES

Table of commodity prices including metals (copper, zinc, lead), oil, and various agricultural products.

Granville & Co. Limited

Table of stock prices for various companies listed by Granville & Co. Limited, including Ass Brit Ind Ord, Ass Brit Ind CULS, and others.

Base Lending Rates

Table of base lending rates for various banks including A&B Bank, Barclays, BCCI, etc.

Advertisement for MALAYSIA US \$300,000,000 Floating Rate Notes due 1992, including details on interest rates and reference agent Bank of Tokyo International Limited.

This advertisement complies with the requirements of the Council of The Stock Exchange in London.

Advertisement for Aktiebolaget Svensk Exportkredit (Swedish Export Credit Corporation) offering £30,000,000 in 1 1/4 per cent. Notes 1988.

List of banks and financial institutions that have agreed to subscribe for the notes, including Hambros Bank Limited, Banque Paribas, and others.

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صكمان الامل

BUSINESS REVIEW

Jellicoe backs the 'Buy British' drive in Turkey

By Our Financial Staff

Britain's most important trade visit to Turkey in more than four years began in Ankara yesterday.

It comes after a period when British companies have increased their sales dramatically from £147m in 1980 to £218m last year.

British exporters have had to compete against tough conditions, without insurance cover, and at a time when Turkey's economy has been rescued from the brink of collapse by the International Monetary Fund.

The Export Credit Guarantee Department withdrew cover in 1977, when the Turks ran into enormous payment difficulties, but restored only short-term measures in March this year.

The visit by Lord Jellicoe, the British Overseas Trade Board chairman, will help to determine whether, as is now being considered, ECGD goes back to a medium-term (up to five years) stance.

Lord Jellicoe's visit will concentrate on meetings with the private sector - which was the prime mover behind a 4 per cent surge in gross national product last year. An important occasion will be when he

addresses the Tusiad, Turkey's CBI equivalent.

"I hope to emphasize that I am impressed by the improvement in their economy over the past few years and that my visit will demonstrate that British industry is anxious to improve trade relations, and will encourage existing exporters and stimulate new ones," he said last week.

That message might need putting across a little harder than he imagines, however. For British exports in the first quarter of this year have lost steam.

UNIT TRUST PERFORMANCE

These tables show the value on June 1 of £100 worth of units invested 12 months ago and three years ago - net income reinvested and based on an offer-to-offer basis. Figures supplied by Planned Savings Statistics.

Table with columns for FINANCIAL, OVERSEAS, and sub-columns for 12mths, 36mths, and Perpetual Inc. Lists numerous unit trust names and their performance metrics.

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

Carlford-Lilly Industries Year to 31.8.83. Pretax profit, £701,000 (£579,000). Stated earnings, 5.38p (4.91p). Turnover, £8.25m (£5.93m). Net dividend, 1.68p (1.5p).

Allied Plant Group Year to 31.12.82. Pretax loss, £296,000 (£44,000 profit). Turnover, £8,08m (£12,96m). Net dividend, nil (0.088p, adjusted for scrip issue).

Dewit Group Year to 31.12.82. Pretax loss, £72,000 (£58,000 profit). Stated earnings, 0.4p (0.54p). Turnover, £1.9m (£1.4m). Net dividend, nil (0.24p).

Ecobric Holdings Half-year to 31.3.83. Pretax profit, £103,000 (£116,000). Stated earnings, 5.8p (9.7p). Turnover, £1.85m (£1.41m). Net interim dividend, 3.28p (3.2p).

Castings Year to 31.3.83. Pretax profit, £375,000 (£550,000). Stated earnings, 3.3p (4.3p). Turnover, £8.42m (£9.5m). Net dividend, 2.42 (2.42p).

Dobson Park Industries Half-year to 2.4.83. Pretax profit, £3.88m (£3.79m). Stated earnings, 2.7p (2.8p). Turnover, £84.68m (£81.18m). Net interim dividend, 1.3p (1.3p).

PROFITS GLOOM: Mr L Hunting, chairman of Hunting Gibson does not expect profits from its associated companies to reach last year's levels, but the outlook was good in the medium to longer term.

Lloyds Eurofinance N.V. (Incorporated in the Netherlands with limited liability). Guaranteed on a subordinated basis to payment of principal and interest by Lloyds Bank p.l.c. (Incorporated in England with limited liability). June 6, 1983, London. CITIBANK.

HOARE GOVETT LIMITED (Members of The Stock Exchange, London). Traded Options. Hoare Govett Limited are pleased to announce that their new Traded Options Department will open today, Monday 6th June 1983 under the direction of Mr. Geoffrey Chamberlain. 01-404 0344. Heron House, 319/325 High Holborn, London WC1.

This advertisement is published by Morgan Grenfell & Co. Limited on behalf of BTR plc. Tilling's demerger proposals... an admission of management failure... GUARDIAN - 26 MAY. "BTR have been by far the better performers." THE SCOTSMAN - 23 MAY. "The best investment advice is to sell Tilling in the market unless tax considerations are in favour of accepting paper." THE TIMES - 18 MAY. "My advice is this: Tilling shareholders wanting cash should sell now in the market... or they should accept the bid." SUNDAY TELEGRAPH - 22 MAY. "Tilling has put everything into the shop window without making a significant advance on its earlier arguments." FINANCIAL TIMES - 26 MAY. "...so the market price is saying BTR will win the day." DAILY MAIL - 1 JUNE. IN OTHER WORDS... ACCEPT THE BTR BID TODAY. BTR logo.

TENNIS: NEW LANDMARK IN FRENCH CHAMPIONSHIPS

Noah's way is the best way

From Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent, Paris

The men's singles champion of France is a Frenchman - for the first time since 1946. Yannick Noah, aged 23, subdued Mats Wilander, last year's winner, by 6-2, 7-5, 7-6 in two hours and 24 minutes here yesterday. We could only guess what was going on inside the inscrutable Wilander - a lad of 18 who was trying to resist not only Noah and most of the sell-out crowd of 17,000, but also the will of a nation.



A familiar celebratory gesture: Noah rejoices after his straight-sets victory.

Mrs Lloyd about £48,000 but was otherwise remarkable only for its historic significance. Mrs Lloyd is the only woman to win at least one of the grand slam singles championships for 10 consecutive years. She is the only woman to compete in 34 grand slam singles tournaments - eight French, 11 Wimbledon, one United States, Australian, and French championships, and could therefore complete a grand slam at Wimbledon ("I hope I get really fired up for that").

addition to the personal satisfaction it would bring, a grand slam thus gave her an inestimable value because the prestige associated with such a feat is now highly marketable.

Perhaps most remarkable of all, at a time when Martina Navratilova is ranked number one in the world, it is the fact that Mrs Lloyd now ranks in the United States, Australian, and French championships, and could therefore complete a grand slam at Wimbledon ("I hope I get really fired up for that").

Denton steals the thunder

By David Powell

Steve Denton achieved his first singles tournament victory since he turned professional four years ago when he defeated Patrick Cash, the Australian junior Wimbledon champion, in an absorbing men's singles final at Beckenham yesterday.

"I was probably the highest ranked player on the computer who had not won a tournament," he came close last December when he reached the Australian championship final and Beckenham was his first week on grass since then.

away and when he was 5-6, 0-40 down, having allowed Cash only three points on his serve until he, produced two aces, and then two more in the championship winning tie-break.



Breaking a duck: Denton marks his first tournament win.

Miss Drury Back to a club of happy memories

Jimmy Connors returns to the place where he turned pro for last summer's Wimbledon success when he defends his title in the Stella Artois grass court championships, which start at Queens Club, in London today.

Sapsford's fairy tale

Full of impish fire, Danny Sapsford yesterday defeated the much taller Neil Pashley 7-6, 6-3 in the final of the 14-and-under section of the hard court championships, sponsored by Prudential, at Cranleigh, East Surrey, Levis Mar writes.

Four top players pull out

Spain, who won at Bournemouth in April, and the defending champion, none of whom are keen to play on grass.

Turner in gallery form

ARUNDEL: Match abandoned. Clive Turner, New Zealand's prolific run maker, had time to give his great rival, Dennis Lillee, a pounding at Arundel before a remarkable storm washed out the day match against Australia.

Lancashire breeze in to complete a winning double act

Lancashire, who beat Northamptonshire earlier in the week in the Benson and Hedges Cup, quarter-finals, got much the better of them again yesterday. Clive Lloyd was the boss, putting Northamptonshire in, and all they could manage on a cool breezy afternoon was 120 for seven.

Table with cricket statistics for Lancashire vs Northamptonshire, including batting and bowling figures for both teams.

Middlesex get off the mark

LORDS: Middlesex (4pts) beat Worcestershire by seven wickets. Middlesex, who were the weather to gain their first John Player League victory of the season in dominant fashion, is a match returned to 33 overs each after rain had stopped play for 2 1/2 hours.

Wright in a mood of majesty

Derbyshire (4pts) beat Warwickshire by five wickets. John Wright of New Zealand continued his professional World Cup by grasping Derbyshire's five wicket win over Warwickshire at Coventry. The left-handed opener made his highest John Player League score, 107 in 96 minutes.

Miandad leaves his mark

TRENT BRIDGE: Glamorgan (4pts) beat Northamptonshire by 11 runs. Javed Miandad, in his last game for Glamorgan before the Pakistan tour, helped his country to victory over Nottinghamshire at Trent Bridge in the John Player League yesterday.

Greenidge: man of century

Love hits them for six

MIDDLESBROUGH: Yorkshire (4pts) beat Hampshire by six wickets. Ian Love and Neil Hartley shared an unbroken partnership of 150 to lead Yorkshire to their highest-ever John Player League total and victory over Hampshire at Middlesbrough.

Table with cricket statistics for Yorkshire vs Hampshire, including batting and bowling figures.

John Player League

Table showing the current standings of the John Player League, listing teams and their points.

Turner in gallery form

ARUNDEL: Match abandoned. Clive Turner, New Zealand's prolific run maker, had time to give his great rival, Dennis Lillee, a pounding at Arundel before a remarkable storm washed out the day match against Australia.

OTHER MATCH

Table with cricket statistics for other matches, including batting and bowling figures.

MOTOR RACING

Alboreto has the staying power

Detroit. (Reuters) - Michele Alboreto of Italy, driving a Tyrrell, won the Detroit Grand Prix yesterday, beating the World champion Keke Rosberg of Finland in a Williams, which was followed by the McLaren of John Watson of Great Britain. The Brabham of Nelson Piquet was fourth ahead of the Frenchman Jacques Laffite's Williams and Britain's Nigel Mansell in a Lotus.

MOTOR CYCLING

Dunlop laps it up

Joey Dunlop, from Northern Ireland broke the race and lap records on his way to victory in the Formula One event, at the beginning of the Isle of Man TT meeting on Saturday.

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BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS and IN MEMORIAM notices (continuation from page 27)

PERSONAL COLUMNS

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

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Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Dear

BBC 1

- 6.00 Ceejax AM. News headlines, weather, sport and traffic details. Available to viewers with television sets without the teletext facility.
6.30 Breakfast Time with Frank Bough and Selina Scott. News from Debbie Rix at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30 with headlines on the quarter hours; regional news, weather and traffic at 6.45, 7.15, 7.45, and 8.15; keep fit between 6.45 and 7.00; horoscopes between 8.00 and 8.15.

TV-am

- 6.25 Good Morning Britain presented by Nick Owen and Arne Diamond. News at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30 sport at 6.45 and 7.45; cartoon at 6.50; Martin Westwood reviews the morning papers at 7.05; Robert Keig's election special with Denis Healey at 7.30; pop video at 7.55; comedy at 8.05; today's television previewed at 8.35; a quiz at 8.55; the Profumo scandal at 9.05; and keep fit with Mad Lizzie at 9.15. Closes down at 9.25. The guest is Dickie Henderson.

BBC 2

- 6.30 Open University: Sociology, Casts and Class. 6.55 Maths: Catastrophe Theory. 7.20 Discovering Chemistry. 7.45 King Frederick and Voltaire. 8.10 Closes down.

CHANNEL 4

- 5.00 A Kind of Living: In the third programme of the self-sufficiency series Susan Pennington investigates the problems of what to grow if space is at a premium. Peter Raine from the National Centre for Alternative Technology talks about organic gardening while Edward Gough has some information about some ingenious methods of pest control.

CHOICE

Robert Duval is superb as General Eisenhower in the three-part IKE (Channel 4 10.10pm) beginning tonight. The film, cleverly mixing archive material with the acting, begins with the Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. Duval's Eisenhower is given a desk job by five-star General Marshall (Dana Andrews) but quickly finds himself posted to London where he has an unimpressive first meeting with Kay Summersby, his driver, later to become his mistress. The book acts bravely with, for her, a banal script, but as the film is based on General Eisenhower's own memoirs we must take as accurate Miss Remick's portrayal of the divorcee. With a clipped, very un-Lambeth like accent, Miss Summersby sweeps across the screen, mock-off his feet at the same time making herself indispensable to the General. Ian Richardson gives his usual bravura performance as Montgomery with Wensley Pithey a creditable Winston Churchill. A riveting film when there is some action but the few sentimental scenes are somewhat of an embarrassment.

Radio 2

- 5.00 Ken Bruce. (1) 7.30 Terry Wogan. (2) 10.00 Jimmy Young. (3) 12.00 Music While You Work. (4) 12.30 Start Humphert. (5) 2.30 Bob Stewart. (6) 4.00 David Hamilton. (7) 6.00 John Peel. (8) 7.28 Crick Desks. 7.30 Alan Dale. (9) 8.45 Humphrey Lyttelton. (10) 9.30 Sound Spectacular. (11) 11.30 The Grand Inquisitor.

Radio 3

- 6.55 Weather. 7.05 News. 7.05 Morning Concert: Bach, Daniel Bacher, Schulz, Handel; records, 8.00 News. 8.15 Morning Concert (continued): Gounod, Schumann, Wagner, Bacher. 8.30 News. 8.45 This week's composers: Max Reger and Hans Pfitzner; records. 10.00 John McCabe Piano recital: Concerto, 8.00 News. 10.10 Resplend: BBC Philharmonic Orchestra. 11.05 Afternoon music: 11.15 French Music BBC Scottish Symphony Orch: Berlioz, Saint Saens, Poulenc. 1.00 News. 1.05 BBC Lunchtime Concert: String Quartets by Shostakovich, Smetana. 2.05 Afternoon music: Vaughan Williams, Messiaen, Schubert; recs. 3.00 News. 3.05 The Archers. 7.25 Aspects of the Fringe. Selection of music and comedy from the 1982 Edinburgh Festival. 8.00 The Monday Play: 'The Sea Anker' by E.A. Whithead. 9.30 Kaleidoscope: Arts magazine. 10.10 The World Tonight: News. 10.20 Science Now. 11.00 A Book of Bedtime: 'The Turn of Mind' by Michael Frayn. 11.15 The Financial World Tonight. 11.30 Election Platform: Extracts from the day's major speeches. 12.00 News. 12.15 Shipping Forecast, Inshore Forecast.

Radio 1

- 6.00 Adrian John. 7.00 Mike Read. 8.00 Simon Bates. 11.30 Mike Smith including 12.30 News. 2.00 Steve Wright. 3.00 Jimmy Young. 5.30 News. 5.50 David Hamilton. (7) 6.00 John Peel. (8) 7.28 Crick Desks. 7.30 Alan Dale. (9) 8.45 Humphrey Lyttelton. (10) 9.30 Sound Spectacular. (11) 11.30 The Grand Inquisitor.

TV/LONDON

- 9.30 For Schools: Canoe building by North American Indians. 9.47 Micro-electronic technology in the home. 18.04 How the media covers the young. 10.31 Telling a Tale. 10.43 Religious Education. 11.05 Simple arithmetic. 11.22 Looking at corners. 11.30 Parenthood. 12.00 Alphabet Zoo: Nerva Hughes and Ralph McTel with S for Seal. 12.10 Let's Pretend (P). 12.30 A Better Read. The last programme in the series and Janet Street-Porter is Tom Coyne's guest. 1.00 News with Leonard Parlin. 1.30 Thames News. 1.30 City Tonight. The Rev. Michael Armitage, a priest of St John's Angel Town, Bristol, talks about the problems of his job (P). 2.00 Film: The Silence (1983) starring Dean Martin and Stella Stevens. A Martin plays Matt Helm, a former member of the CIA who is brought out of retirement to save the western world from the hands of the Chinese. Directed by Robert Altman. 4.00 Alphabet Zoo: A repeat of the programme shown at noon. 4.15 Cartoon Time: Marjlan Through Georgia. 4.20 The New Fantastic Four in an animated adventure entitled 'The Monsters of the South Sea Islands' by Leon Garfield. A schoolboy pranks goes badly wrong when an unearthly figure appears in the graveyard. 5.15 Different Strokes. 5.45 News 8.00 Thames News. 6.25 Help. 6.35 Crossroads. Adam Chance is in a bit of a fix but survives, thanks to some help from an unexpected quarter. 7.00 Village Earth: A Quiet Revolution. A documentary about the ladies of the Tunisian Women's Union who dispense advice to those of their kind who live in the traditionally male-dominated society of southern Tunisia. 7.30 Coronation Street. Mavis Riley is taken by Victor Pendebury to his country cottage. 8.00 World in Action Special: The election 800. Gae MacDonaid is the chairman of the selected cross-section of the population comes face to face with the party leaders to question them on their party's policies. 9.00 Election Broadcast by the Labour Party. 9.10 Quincy: The investigative police officer enters the world of drug-taking in sport when a young gymnast is killed by a fall. 10.10 News. 10.45 Outcasts: The Royal Premier. Chris Kelly and Judith Chalmers are at the Ocean, Lobster Square, to talk at the premiere of the latest James Bond film, attended by the Prince and Princess of Wales. 11.30 Film: City of the Dead (1960) starring Christopher Lee. An occult horror movie set in the present day about witchcraft in New England. Directed by John Moxley. 12.55 Closes with the Rev Peter Lewis.

BBC 1

- 6.00 News briefing. 6.10 Farming week. 6.25 Shopping Forecast. 6.30 Today, including 6.45 Prayer for the Day. 6.55, 7.25 Weather. 7.30, 8.00 News. 7.25, 8.25 Sport. 7.30, 8.30 News Headlines. 7.45 Thought for the Day. 8.47 The Week on 4. 8.47 Party Election Broadcast by the Labour Party. 8.57 Weather. Travel. 9.00 News. 9.05 Election Call: 01-500 90-92 (lines open from 8.00:20). Simultaneous broadcast with BBC 1. 10.00 News. 10.02 Money Box. 10.30 Morning Story 'One Day They'll Marry' by Leslie Harward. 10.45 The World of News. 11.00 News. 11.05 Down Your Way: Valleys Fort in the Vale of Strathmore in Tyneside. 11.46 Poety Pleased. 12.00 News. 12.02 Today's News. 12.27 The Price of Fear. 'To My Dear, Dear Saladin' by William Ingram. 12.55 Weather. Travel. 1.00 The Archers. 1.25 Shipping Forecast. 2.02 Women's Hour. 3.00 News.

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Radio 4

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David Steel: Soaring high towards polling day

Julian Haviland, Political Editor, talks to David Steel of the Liberals in the first of a series of interviews with the four party leaders

How much sleep do you get? Not enough, is the short answer. It varies - never more than six hours and usually nearer five. This to me is a great deprivation. I'm hopeless in the early morning and I find these early morning press conferences a tremendous strain. How do you get the newspapers read?

The levels of support we were at the beginning of the campaign would have to face that nightmare; but I think now that the level of support we are getting - and I must assume that it goes on rising towards polling day, is going to be sufficient to ensure that the SDP is there in appreciable numbers. Are you not just talking up support, because your potential voters need to be persuaded that you are on your way?

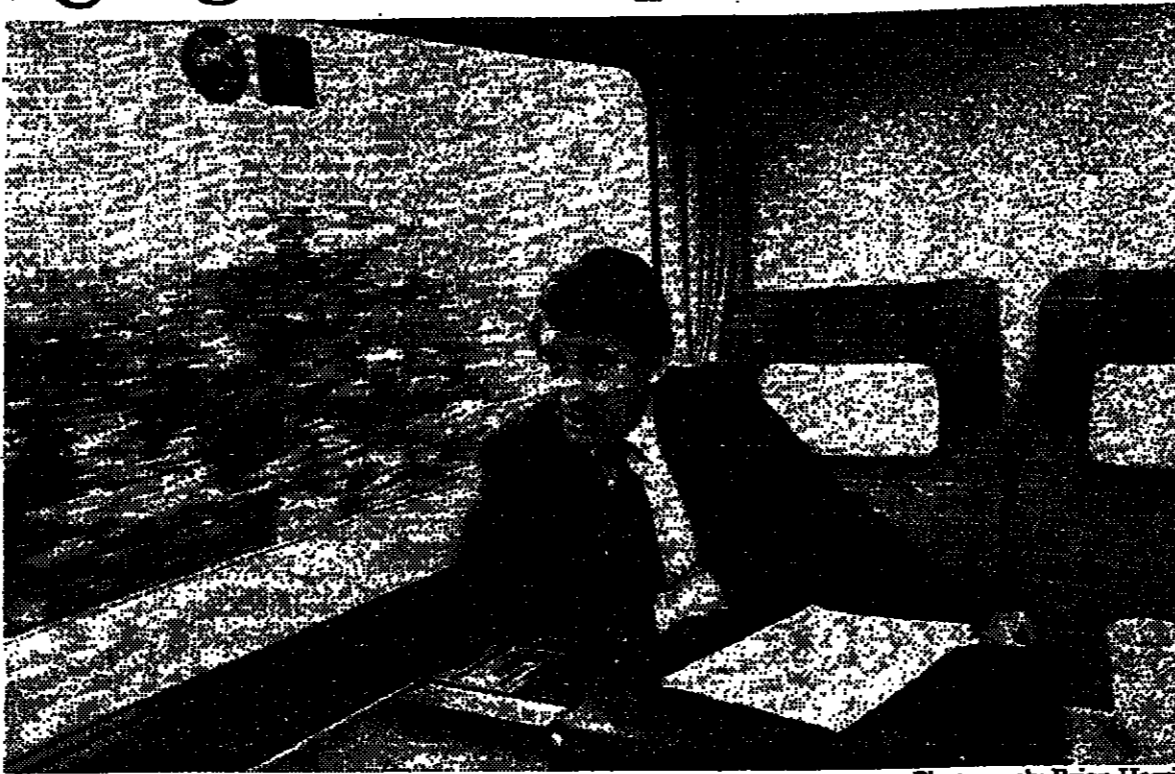
I don't - not first thing in the morning. Somebody else reads them for me - John Pardoe and Paul Tyler, who draw to my attention anything of significance. What mileage are you doing? About 5,000 miles on the road as well as the air travel.

But I have been quite accurate in my predictions so far. I have said all the way through the campaign, do not expect any movement until half way through. That was right. The movement came half way through and it is now rising steeply. Where I was wrong is that I did not expect Labour support to collapse so quickly.

It has added to the complications; but one of the pleasant surprises of the campaign has been how few the complications are. I thought at the beginning that it was going to be a nightmare because every decision I took would have to be referred to the gang of four; but the joint headquarters operation has worked like a dream, and there has been no strain or tension in the Alliance campaign at all.

6 Growing doubts in the Tory camp about unemployment and the leadership style

If they were reduced to a rump would you expect them to join the Liberal Party? We have no commitment on this whatever. We have always said this is an alliance for this election. We are going to work together in the next Parliament whatever happens. Precisely how depends on the outcome and we have three options.



Photograph: Brian Harris

Parliament, or we could go the other way - and the two parties will have to reflect on this in a mature way - and we could decide we ought to take the route towards a merger. If David Owen emerges as the strongest figure in the SDP, could you see him wanting to come in under your leadership in a joint party?

ing with vigour the policy of unemployment as a means to salvation. I think there are growing doubts inside the Conservative camp itself about the style and the nature of society that the present Tory leadership speaks to, and I think that is going to bring a lot of one-nation Conservative voters to us towards the end, especially now that the fear of the return of a Labour government is removed.

rubbish is in the manifesto, I support it." That is not an intellectually honest position. Under cross-examination in the campaign it all unravels. Do you think the Prime Minister's character and personality have proved important? She provides positive leadership, but going round the country I am always mystified about the gap between the obvious high poll ratings she enjoys and the very strong dislike of her style of leadership among ordinary voters.

The second issue is the one which brought the Alliance about - reshaping politics. We have been greatly assisted by the divisions in the Labour Party, not just over the issue of defence but the whole question of Militant Tendency candidates and the inadequate grasp which the leadership has of the turmoil inside the party. I think people feel it is just not an acceptable alternative government, and therefore the chance is there for us to fill that void.

6 Healey and Hattersley both subscribed to a manifesto in which they didn't believe

Has there been a decisive moment? There have been mistakes in the campaign. The basic mistake for the Labour Party was for people like Healey and Hattersley to have actually started a campaign subscribing to a manifesto in which they did not believe. The Hattersley approach was: "We are a democratic party and whatever

Letter from Atlantic City Casinos hit the jackpot but the rest go bust

Before the casinos came, Atlantic City was a poor, wretched dump of a town. Five years and billions of dollars later it is a rich, wretched dump of a town with some of America's most disgusting poverty alongside some of its most fabulous wealth.

matter of considerable doubt judging by the force of what the city calls its grand plan - a blueprint drawn up several years ago on how the windfall of revenues from the casinos should be spent, for the betterment of the 47,000 permanent residents.

It all seems so incongruous. Outside the casino hotels there is nothing, absolutely nothing, save for the poor little houses, a couple of middle-class suburbs and several tedious miles of marshland. Nowadaya the city that not so long ago was the grand old lady of the East Coast, whose gentility and sophistication was attested by her young people who came to spend the season, is as much a gambling town as Las Vegas.

The first casino opened and nothing has been the same since. At least 100 seaside stores have been driven out by the land-hungry countless numbers of small-time merchants selling hot dogs and curries to the day-trippers have silently faded away.

Today's events

Royal engagements The Prince and Princess of Wales attend the premiere of Octopussy, in aid of the Princess of Wales' Charities Trust and the Stars Organisation for Spastics, Odeon Theatre, Leicester Square, London.

Gold Medallion, 2, plants a tree at the High School for Girls to commemorate the School's centenary, 9, opens the new breathing apparatus training complex at Gloucester Fire Station, 4.

Paintings by Dennis Hawkins and ceramics by Val Barry, Oxford Gallery, 23 High Street, Oxford; Mon to Sat 10 to 5; (from today until July 6).

Nature notes

Birds are at all stages of nesting. Most of these summer broods, hidden in deep foliage, will survive, though the rain has washed out the nests of some blackbirds and song-thrushes. Garden warblers and blackcaps are sitting on their mottled eggs loose, grassy nests, usually in brambles or honeysuckle.

Roads

London and South-east: A46: Roadworks on Western Avenue, Uxbridge, NW London. Space Shuttle at Stantest airport: extra traffic on M11 and A126 in Essex. Expected to be busy. A272: Closed between A32, junction and Petersfield, Hampshire; diversion for through traffic.

Weather

An anticyclone will become established over the North as a trough of low pressure approaches SW England from Biscay. 6 am to midnight London, SE, Central S, NW, Central N England, Midlands, N Wales, Isle of Man, Northern Ireland: Sunny periods, dry, becoming cloudy later; wind E, moderate or fresh; max temp 20 to 22C (70 to 72F).

Weather maps and tide information. Includes a map of Great Britain showing pressure systems and a table of high tides for various locations like London Bridge, Aberdeen, and Liverpool.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,148

A crossword puzzle grid with some numbers filled in, intended for readers to complete.

Exhibitions in progress

Etchings and other intaglio techniques: museum and Art Gallery, Kensington, Glasgow; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5; (until June 19).

National Day

Sweden celebrates its national flag day today. It commemorates the day in 1809 when a new constitution was introduced, separating the powers of the King and the Riksdag (parliament). King Gustav IV Adolf was deposed, following the defeat of Sweden by the Russians, and a new king was sought. The following year the French Marshal Jean Baptiste Bernadotte was chosen as successor to the throne.

The pound

Table showing exchange rates for various currencies including Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and USA.

Anniversaries

Births: Velasquez, baptized Seville, 1599; Aleksandr Pushkin (old style May 26), Moscow, 1799; Princess Maza, Libeck, Germany, 1875; Death: Jeremy Bentham, London, 1831; Sir John Macdonald, first prime minister of Canada (1869-73, 1878-91), Ottawa, 1891.

Around Britain

Table showing weather forecasts for various regions across Britain, including London, Birmingham, Manchester, and Glasgow.

Abroad

Table showing weather forecasts for various international locations like Aleppo, Amman, Ankara, Algiers, Athens, Baghdad, etc.

- CROSS 1 Under-tens can be an awful handful (10). 6 Singular fire-iron found in Chinese society (4). 9 He was born west of the river, not in his county town (7, 3). 12 Bespoke by Timon? (4). 15 Numbers getting small return on investment (4). 19 Country for Joe's old men in retirement (5-4). 21 Epitaph for a double-jointed beef-eater? (8). 22 Not visible in the foreign mobile leeders (6). 23 Offer that may take one in (6). 24 After enthusiastic start religious campaign is giving out (8). 25 Having a double meaning - just as talkative, for example? (9). 26 Cavalryman loses nothing on trail (4). 27 A timid appearance - so colourless (4). 28 Makes capital round-trip, but not metropolitan (6, 4). 29 Garbled Heekda hates a reminder of mortality (6-4).
- DOWN 1 The tyranny of a stiff collar (4). 2 Enjoying 12s, he has a right to entire proceeds? (7).

The Solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No. 16,147 will appear next Saturday

Organ recital by Andrew Lumsden, Coventry Cathedral, 1.05. Organ recital by Arnold Mason, St Bartholomew's Church, Armley, Leeds, 2. Organ recital by the Black Country, by E. S. Hughes, Birmingham and Midland Institute, Margaret Street, Birmingham, 6.30. Music Organ recital by Andrew Lumsden, Coventry Cathedral, 1.05. Organ recital by Arnold Mason, St Bartholomew's Church, Armley, Leeds, 2. Organ recital by the Black Country, by E. S. Hughes, Birmingham and Midland Institute, Margaret Street, Birmingham, 6.30. Concert by Morley Musica Viva Ensemble, Morley College, 61, Westminster Bridge Road, SE1, 7.30. Walks The London of Charles Dickens, meet Holborn Underground, 11 am. The City of London, meet Monument Underground (Fish Street Hill exit), 2 pm. London's Ghosts, Alleys and Oddities, meet Embankment Underground, 7.30 pm.

Information for inclusion in The Times Information Service should be sent to: Cathy James, T.T.E. The Times, PO Box 1, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 9EZ.

